MICHIGAN STATE

FOOTBALL

2020 MICHIGAN STATE PREVIEW

THE COACH MEL TUCKER ERA BEGINS

INSIDE:

POSITION-BY-POSITION BREAKDOWN

MEET THE NEW COACHES AND STAFF

LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM

HEAD COACH MEL TUCKER

DE JACUB PANASIUK

C MATT ALLEN

LB ANTJUAN SIMMONS

RB ELIJAH COLLINS

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2020 OUTLOOK

SPARTAN FOOTBALL NOTES

• A new era of Spartan football begins in 2020 as Mel Tucker starts his head coaching tenure in East Lansing. Tucker, a 23-year coaching veteran with championship experience, was named Michigan State University's 25th head football coach on Feb. 12 following Mark Dantonio's retirement on Feb. 4. Dantonio retired as the winningest coach in Michigan State history, collecting a 114-57 (.667) record in 13 seasons with a school-record three Big Ten Championships and six bowl wins.

• Tucker's resume, which began as a graduate assistant at Michigan State under Nick Saban, has an impressive track record of success. The journey that has led him back to East Lansing includes a head coaching position at the University of Colorado (2019), five seasons as a defensive coach in the Southeastern Conference (2000; 2015-18), 10 seasons in the NFL (2005-14), and four seasons at Ohio State (2001-04). He was a defensive coordinator in the NFL for seven seasons and 11 seasons overall in his coaching career.

• In 142 games as a full-time coach in the FBS, Tucker's teams have collected a 106-36 (.746) record, including 10 postseason bowl games (2000 Peach, 2002 Outback, 2003 Fiesta/BCS National Championship, 2004 Fiesta, 2004 Alamo, 2015 Cotton/CFP Semifinal, 2016 CFP/National Championship, 2016 Liberty, 2018 Rose/CFP Semifinal, 2018 CFP/National Championship), three conference championships, three national championship games and two national championships (2002 with Ohio State, 2015 with Alabama). He coached 160 games in the National Football League (64 with Cleveland, 64 with Jacksonville, 32 with Chicago).

Mel Tucker, who has 23 years of coaching experience, both at the NFL and collegiate levels, enters his first season as head coach at Michigan State in 2020. He returns to East Lansing where his coaching career started as a graduate assistant under Nick Saban in 1997-98.

• The 48-year-old Tucker is nationally recognized as a top recruiter and developer of talent, working with numerous NFL Draft selections, including 12 first-rounders, and multiple All-Americans and Pro Bowlers. He has been on staffs with some of the top collegiate coaches in the game, including Nick Saban, Mark Dantonio, Kirby Smart and Jim Tressel.

• Michigan State closed the 2019 season on a three-game winning streak to finish the year with a 7-6 overall record, capped by a 27-21 victory over Wake Forest in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl on Dec. 27 in Yankee Stadium. The Pinstripe Bowl victory propelled the Spartans to their 11th winning season in 13 years.

• Michigan State just completed its winningest decade in school history based on total wins, as the Spartans went 92-40 (.697) from 2010-19. The 92 wins were third most in the Big Ten and 13th most in the FBS during that period. In addition, Michigan State became the fifth Big Ten program to win at least 90 games in a decade (Ohio State, Penn State, Michigan, Wisconsin) and the 92 wins were the seventh-most ever by any Big Ten team in a decade. During the 2010s, MSU won six bowl games (2012 Outback, 2012 Buffalo Wild Wings, 2014 Rose, 2015 Cotton, 2017 Holiday, 2019 Pinstripe), three Big Ten Championships (2010, 2013, 2015) and three Big Ten Division titles (2011, 2013, 2015). MSU's .697 winning percentage last decade was the fourth best in school history. MSU was the only school to finish in the top-six of the national polls from 2013-15 (No. 3 in 2013, No. 5 in 2014, No. 6 in 2015) and the 36 wins from 2013-15 marked the winningest three-year stretch in the history of the program.

WINNINGEST NCAA FBS TEAMS - 2010S

Rank	Team	Total Wins
1.	Alabama	124
2.	Clemson	117
3.	Oklahoma	109
4.	Boise State	107
5.	Ohio State	105*
6.	LSU	103
7.	Wisconsin	102
8.	Oregon	101
9.	Georgia	100
10.	Stanford	98
11.	Florida State	96
12.	Oklahoma State	93
13.	***Michigan State***	***92***
14.	Northern Illinois	91
15.	San Diego State	90

** Ohio State vacated 12 wins from the 2010 season*

• The Spartans will welcome back 21 players with starting experience on offense, including redshirt sophomore running back Elijah Collins, who earned third-team All-Big Ten honors last season after leading the Spartans and ranking fourth in the Big Ten with 988 rushing yards (76.0 ypg). MSU is returning 11 players with starting experience on the offensive line, led by multi-year starters Matt Allen, Luke Campbell, Kevin Jarvis and Jordan Reid.

• Although the Spartans are replacing seven starters on the defensive side of the ball, the Spartans bring back leading tackler and senior linebacker Antjuan Simmons, who racked up 90 stops in his first season as a starter in 2019. Senior defensive end Jacub Panasiuk recorded career highs in sacks (5) and tackles for loss (11) last year and will anchor the defensive line following the departure of All-American Kenny Willekes.

• Three starting specialists return, including placekicker Matt Coghlin, who enters his senior season in 2020 ranked tied for fifth in school history with 55 field goals made. Kickoff specialist Cole Hahn and long snapper Jude Pedrozo are also back for the Spartans; however, the specialists unit does lose four-year starting punter Jake Hartbarger, who wrapped up his career in 2019 ranked among the school's all-time leaders in punting yards (fourth with 10,554) and punting average (sixth with 42.4 avg.).

Redshirt sophomore running back Elijah Collins had a breakthrough season for the Spartans in 2019 after leading the team and ranking fourth in the Big Ten in rushing yards (988) and carries (222).

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2020 OUTLOOK

QUICK LOOK AT THE 2020 SCHEDULE

• Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Michigan State will play a shortened nine-game conference-only schedule in 2020. The Spartans opened preseason camp on Aug. 7 before the Big Ten Conference postponed the season on Aug. 11. On Sept. 16, the Big Ten announced the 2020 season would start on Oct. 24 with a nine-game schedule.

• The Spartans open the Mel Tucker era on Oct. 24 against Rutgers in Spartan Stadium. Michigan State is riding a six-game winning streak against the Scarlet Knights. It will mark the latest season opener and home opener in Michigan State history.

• Michigan State will travel to Ann Arbor to take on the Wolverines in Michigan Stadium on Oct. 31, followed by another road trip on Nov. 7 to face the Hawkeyes in Iowa City.

• MSU returns home to face Indiana on Nov. 14 in Spartan Stadium in the battle for the Old Brass Spittoon. The Spartans have won 10 of the last 11 meetings against the Hoosiers, including a 40-31 victory in East Lansing last year.

• Michigan State heads to Maryland on Nov. 21 before returning home on Thanksgiving Weekend to face Northwestern on Saturday, Nov. 28.

• The Spartans will host defending Big Ten Champion Ohio State on Dec. 5 in Spartan Stadium and close out the Big Ten East portion of the schedule Dec. 12 at Penn State.

• On the last weekend of the season (Dec. 19), the Big Ten will match teams from the East Division and the West Division for Big Ten Champions Week.

SPARTAN COACHING STAFF UPDATES

• Michigan State head coach Mel Tucker, who was officially hired on Feb. 12, spent the first two weeks of his tenure putting together his staff. He rounded out his 10 on-field coaching hires on Feb. 28, when he named Scottie Hazelton the Secchia Family Defensive Coordinator. Tucker's first moves were to retain defensive coaches Ron Burton and Mike Tressel on the staff.

• A 24-year coaching veteran with stints at all levels of collegiate football and the NFL, Scottie Hazelton arrives in East Lansing after spending one season as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Kansas State in 2019. Hazelton made an immediate impact in his only season at Kansas State, as the Wildcats ranked among the best defensive teams in the Big 12. KSU was second in the conference in scoring defense, allowing just 21.4 points per game, the program's best mark since 2003. Part of the reason for K-State's success on defense was the dramatic improvement on third downs; under Hazelton, the Wildcats ranked first in the Big 12 and second in the FBS in third-down defense (.280), compared to eighth in the league and 110th in the FBS the season prior (.448). Overall, the Wildcats ranked fourth in the Big 12 in total defense (368.4 ypg), the best for the program since 2013.

• Jay Johnson will serve as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. Johnson, 50, is a veteran coach and administrator of 25 seasons, including 10 as an offensive coordinator at four FBS schools (Colorado, Minnesota, Louisiana, Southern Mississippi) in addition to coaching quarterbacks, running backs and tight ends as a position coach. Johnson arrives to East Lansing after serving as the offensive coordinator at Colorado for one season in 2019 under Tucker.

• Chris Kapilovic (pronounced kuh-pil-oh-vick) joins the Spartan staff as the offensive line coach and run game coordinator. Kapilovic has nearly 30 years of coaching experience, including roles as an offensive coordinator and/or run game coordinator at Southern Mississippi (2008-11), North Carolina (2012-18) and Colorado (2019). He has coached multiple NFL players, first-round draft picks and record-setting offenses during his career.

• Former Spartan great Courtney Hawkins is joining the offensive staff as the wide receivers coach. Hawkins, who played nine seasons in the NFL, comes to Michigan State after serving as the head football coach and athletic director at his alma mater, Beecher High School, in Flint, Michigan, since 2006.

• Ted Gilmore will coach the tight ends for the Spartans. A 25-year coaching veteran with experience at the FBS and NFL ranks, Gilmore has developed numerous NFL players, draft picks and All-Americans during his coaching career. He was named the 2011 FootballScoop Wide Receivers Coach of the Year after mentoring consensus All-American Robert Woods and 2011 Freshman All-American Marqise Lee at USC. Gilmore, 52, spent the previous five seasons (2015-19) as the wide receivers coach at Wisconsin; he was also the offensive pass game coordinator his last three years in Madison.

• William Peagler is the program's running backs coach. He was the director of quality control for the offense last season at Colorado and has been coaching in college for the past 10 seasons. This will be the fifth time he has been on the same staff with offensive coordinator Jay Johnson (Michigan State, Colorado, Georgia, Minnesota, Louisiana).

Senior linebacker Antjuan Simmons, who is on watch lists for the Bednarik Award and Lott IMPACT Trophy, led the team in tackles (90) and ranked second in tackles for loss (15) last season.

• A 30-year coaching veteran, special teams coordinator/linebackers coach Ross Els spent the last three seasons (2017-19) as the inside linebackers coach at Colorado; he added duties of special teams coordinator under Tucker in 2019. Els, 53, has previous experience in the Big Ten, serving as the defensive coordinator at Purdue in 2016 and four seasons at Nebraska under Coach Bo Pelini from 2011-14.

• Harlon Barnett is back in East Lansing to coach the cornerbacks after two seasons (2018-19) as the defensive coordinator at Florida State. He was MSU's associate head coach in 2017, his 11th season on the Spartan staff under Mark Dantonio, before departing for FSU. During Barnett's time in East Lansing from 2007-17, the Spartans were 100-45 with three Big Ten Championships (2010, 2013, 2015) and were selected for the College Football Playoff in 2015. He coached the defensive backs his entire 11 years under Dantonio at MSU; he was promoted to assistant head coach and co-defensive coordinator prior to Michigan State's victory in the 2015 Cotton Bowl Classic over Baylor, and was appointed the program's associate head coach in June 2017.

• Ron Burton, a 28-year coaching veteran who also played four seasons in the NFL, is in his eighth season on the defensive staff at Michigan State and will coach the defensive line. He has coached in a bowl game 12 of the past 13 seasons, including six bowls with the Spartans (2014 Rose, 2015 Cotton, 2015 College Football Playoff Semifinal, 2017 Holiday, 2018 Redbox, 2019 Pinstripe). After spending his first four seasons at MSU coaching the entire defensive line, Burton shifted his focus to the defensive tackles for three seasons (2017-19). He is the only coach to win the FootballScoop National Defensive Line Coach of the Year Award twice, an honor he won for the second time in 2018 after MSU finished with the top-ranked rushing defense in the country. Burton also won the award during his first season in East Lansing in 2013 when the Spartans claimed the Big Ten Championship, won the Rose Bowl, and finished No. 2 in the FBS in total defense and rushing defense.

• Mike Tressel enters his 14th year on the Spartan defensive staff, his first as the safeties coach. Tressel served as the program's linebackers coach from 2007-19 and also was the special teams coordinator his first eight seasons at MSU. In addition, he was the co-defensive coordinator for three seasons (2015-17) and the sole defensive coordinator for two seasons (2018-19), in addition to being the assistant head coach in 2019. During Tressel's tenure at MSU, the Spartans have ranked in the FBS Top 10 in total defense and rushing defense on six occasions (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018).

PERSONNEL BRIEFING: OFFENSE

LETTERWINNERS BREAKDOWN (12 LOST, 26 RETURNING)

LOST	POSITION	RETURNING
CODY WHITE (3)	X	Tre Mosley (1)
Davis Lewandowski (1)		
Cole Chewins (3)*	LT	**AJ ARCURI (2)+**
Tyler Higby (4)=		Kevin Jarvis (2)^
	LG	**J.D. DUPLAIN (1)@**
		LUKE CAMPBELL (3)#
	C	**MATT ALLEN (3)&**
		Nick Samac (1)%
Bryce Wilker (1)	RG	**MATT CARRICK (2)**
		Blake Bueter (2)
		Jacob Isaia (1)
Tommy Liesveld (1)	RT	**JORDAN REID (3)**
		Mustafa Khaleefah (1)
MATT SEYBERT (2)	TE	Matt Dotson (3)!
		Trenton Gillison (1)
		Max Rosenthal (2)
		Parks Gissinger (1)
		Adam Berghorst (1)
	Z	C.J. Hayes (2)
		Jahz Watts (1)
DARRELL STEWART (4)	F	Jalen Nailor (1)$
Brandon Sowards (4)		Laress Nelson (3)
BRIAN LEWERKE (4)	QB	Rocky Lombardi (2)
La'Darius Jefferson (2)	TB	**ELIJAH COLLINS (1)**
Noah Sargent (1)		Anthony Williams (1)
		Brandon Wright (1)
		Connor Heyward (2)~

2019 STARTERS IN CAPS; (#) Indicates letters earned; Positions listed according to 2019 depth chart unless denoted.

** Chewins was a two-year starter at LT but missed the entire 2019 season due to injury; + Arcuri started 5 games at LT; = Higby started 4 games at LT; ^ Jarvis started first 3 games at LT but missed last 10 games due to injury to preserve redshirt year; @ Duplain started last 5 games at LG; # Campbell started 9 games in 2019 (8 at LG; 1 at RG); missed last 3 games to injury; & Allen started 9 games at C; % Samac started 4 games at C; ! Dotson started 4 games at TE; $ Nailor started 4 games at WR; played in only 4 games to preserve redshirt year; ~ Heyward played in the first 4 games at RB to preserve redshirt year.*

QUARTERBACKS

Letterwinners returning (1):
- #12 Rocky Lombardi (2L, R-Jr., 6-4, 225, Clive, Iowa/Valley)
(8 games, 7-of-21 passing (.333), 74 yards, 0 TDs, 2 INTs)

Letterwinners lost (1):
BRIAN LEWERKE (4L, 13 games/13 starts, 260-of-436 passing (.596), 3,079 yards, 17 TDs, 13 INTs)

The competition to replace three-year starting quarterback Brian Lewerke, the program's all-time leader in total offense, will be one of the main storylines to watch for the Spartans in 2020. Michigan State has four scholarship quarterbacks on its roster – redshirt junior **Rocky Lombardi**, redshirt sophomore **Theo Day**, redshirt freshman **Payton Thorne** and freshman **Noah Kim**. First-year offensive coordinator **Jay Johnson** will also coach the quarterbacks for the Spartans.

Lombardi is the only quarterback on the roster with previous starting experience, as he filled in for Lewerke for three games during the 2018 season as a redshirt freshman, compiling a 2-1 record. He was named the Big Ten Co-Freshman of the Week after leading the Spartans to a 23-13 victory over Purdue on Oct. 27, 2018, in his first career start. Lombardi threw for 318 yards against the Boilermakers and completed 26-of-46 passes, including two touchdowns; his 318 yards passing were the second most by a Spartan QB making his first career start (Ed Smith threw for 324 yards in his first career start at North Carolina State in 1976).

Lombardi started the final two games of the 2018 regular season at Nebraska on Nov. 17 and against Rutgers on Nov. 24 in Spartan Stadium. In his second career start at quarterback vs. Nebraska on Nov. 17, Lombardi collected 199 yards of total offense. He completed 15-of-41 passes for 146 yards and ran for a career-high 53 yards on nine carries (5.9 avg.). In the win over Rutgers, Lombardi was 19-of-43 for 173 yards, one TD and one interception. Lombardi played quarterback in seven games (eight games overall; punted once in an emergency situation at Arizona State). He was 68-of-154 (.442) passing for 738 yards, three TDs and three interceptions.

Redshirt junior Rocky Lombardi is the only Spartan quarterback with previous starting experience entering the 2020 season. Lombardi started three games during his redshirt freshman season, guiding MSU to victories over Purdue and Rutgers.

As a redshirt sophomore in 2019, the 6-4, 225-pound Lombardi played sparingly, taking 51 snaps over the course of eight games of action. He completed 7-of-21 passes for 74 yards, zero touchdowns and two interceptions.

The 6-5, 225-pound Day made two appearances last season, taking one snap against Western Michigan and five snaps vs. Penn State. He was 2-of-3 passing for 12 yards against the Nittany Lions.

Thorne, who stands at 6-2, 210 pounds, redshirted his first year on campus in 2019. Although he spent a majority of his true freshman season on the scout team, he did see an increased amount of time on the offense during bowl practices.

RUNNING BACKS / FULLBACKS

Letterwinners returning (4):
- **#24 ELIJAH COLLINS** (1L, R-So., 6-1, 220, Detroit, Mich./Univ. of Detroit Jesuit)
(13 games/12 starts, 222 carries, 988 yards, 4.5 avg, 5 TDs)
- #11 Connor Heyward (2L, R-Jr., 6-0, 230, Duluth, Ga./Peachtree Ridge)
(4 games/1 start, 24 carries, 79 yards, 3.3 avg., 0 TDs) *
- ** played in only four games in 2019 to preserve redshirt season*
- #9 Anthony Williams (1L, So., 6-1, 205, Chicago, Ill./Bolingbrook)
(12 games, 38 carries, 118 yards, 3.1 avg., 1 TD)
- #26 Brandon Wright (1L, So., 6-2, 240, Euclid, Ohio/Euclid)
(6 games, 18 carries, 48 yards, 2.7 avg., 0 TDs)

Letterwinners lost (2):
- La'Darius Jefferson (2L, 6 games, 19 carries, 25 yards, 1.3 avg., 2 TDs)
- Noah Sargent (1L, 3 games)

After preserving his redshirt year in 2018 by appearing in just three games, **Elijah Collins** had a breakthrough season as a redshirt freshman for the Spartans in 2019, leading the team and ranking fourth in the Big Ten with 988 rushing yards (76.0 avg.). Collins, who earned third-team All-Big Ten honors by the media and Pro Football Focus, was just 12 yards shy of becoming MSU's first 1,000-yard rusher since Jeremy Langford in 2014 and rushed for the second-most yards ever by a Spartan freshman (record: Sedrick Irvin with 1,067 yards in 1996). Collins' 222 carries were also the most by a Spartan back since Langford in 2014 (276) and the most by a Spartan freshman since Irvin (237) in 1996.

The Detroit, Michigan, native emerged as one of the top freshman running backs in the nation, ranking third among all FBS freshman RBs in carries (222; 17.1 pg) and fifth in rushing (76.0 ypg). In his first career start against Western Michigan in Week 2, Collins quickly burst onto the scene with 192 rushing yards on just 17 carries (11.3 avg.), the second-most rushing yards ever by a Spartan freshman in a single game. He also had 100-yard rushing games against Illinois (170) and Rutgers (109) and had 96 yards on 21 carries in MSU's Pinstripe Bowl win over Wake Forest. Collins has been named to watch lists for the Maxwell Award (player of the year) and Doak Walker Award (nation's top running back).

MSU also played two true freshman running backs in 2019 as **Anthony Williams** (12 games) and **Brandon Wright** (six games) contributed to the Spartan rushing attack. A versatile player who has good hands in the backfield and can also return

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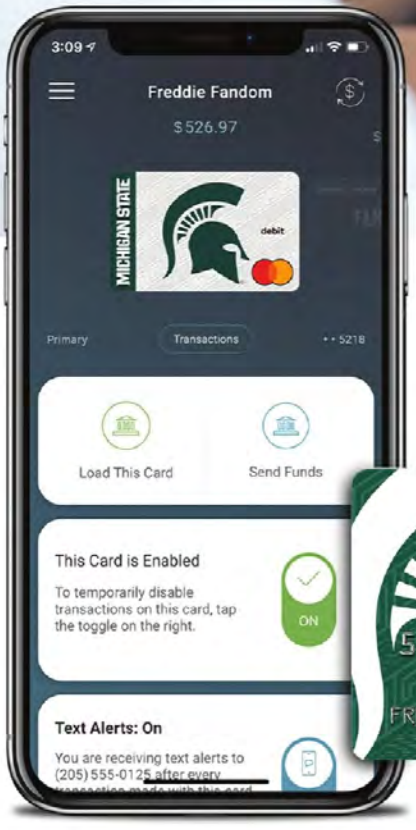

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kicks, Williams recorded 118 rushing yards on 38 carries, six receptions for 77 yards, and five kickoffs for 93 yards. He expects to play a more significant role in the offense during his second season with the Spartans. Wright didn't play until the second half of the season, but still gained experience with 18 carries for 48 yards.

Redshirt junior **Connor Heyward**, who only played in four games in 2019, will also return for the Spartans. A finalist for the Paul Hornung Award as a sophomore in 2018, Heyward has 618 rushing yards and five TDs on 145 carries in 29 career games, including nine starts. He had 24 carries for 79 yards and seven catches for 52 yards and one TD in the first four games of last season.

Converted wide receiver/cornerback **Andre Welch**, who moved to the backfield midway through last season, and fifth-year senior **Alante Thomas** add depth at the position.

In addition, the Spartans add two true freshmen who signed National Letters of Intent as part of the 2020 recruiting class: **Donavon Eaglin** (Manvel, Texas) and **Jordon Simmons** (Marietta, Ga.).

First-year assistant **William Peagler** will coach the running backs for the Spartans.

WIDE RECEIVERS

Letterwinners returning (5):
- #4 C.J. Hayes (2L, R-Jr., 6-2, 200, Bowling Green, Ky./South Warren)
(11 games/2 starts, 13 catches, 141 yards, 10.8 avg., 0 TDs, 12.8 ypg)
- #17 Tre Mosley (1L, So., 6-2, 200, Pontiac, Mich./West Bloomfield)
(6 games/1 start, 21 catches, 216 yards, 10.3 avg., 1 TD, 36.0 ypg)
- #8 Jalen Nailor (1L, R-So., 6-0, 185, Palmdale, Calif./Bishop Gorman)
(4 games/4 starts, 15 catches, 106 yards, 7.1 avg., 0 TDs, 26.5 ypg)

** played in just four games due to injury to preserve his redshirt season*
- #13 Laress Nelson (3L, Sr., 5-8, 180, Fort Lauderdale, Fla./American Heritage)
(13 games/1 start, 4 catches, 48 yards, 12.0 avg., 0 TDs, 3.7 ypg)
- #87 Jahz Watts (1L, R-Jr., 6-0, 185, Belleville, Mich./Belleville, 9 games)

Letterwinners lost (4):
- Davis Lewandowski (1L)
- Brandon Sowards (4L, 13 games)
- **DARRELL STEWART** (4L, 9 games/8 starts, 49 catches, 697 yards, 14.2 avg., 4 TDs, 77.4 ypg)
- **CODY WHITE** (3L, 13 games/12 starts, 66 catches, 922 yards, 14.0 avg., 6 TDs, 70.9 ypg)

The Spartans are losing their top two receivers from last season in Darrell Stewart and Cody White, but the outlook is bright with several young, promising prospects at the position. The group will be coached by former Spartan star **Courtney Hawkins**, who in addition to earning first-team All-Big Ten honors twice in college also spent nine seasons playing in the NFL.

Redshirt sophomore **Jalen Nailor** has provided glimpses of his potential as a playmaker his first two seasons, which have been limited due to injuries, but he should have even more of a chance to make an impact on the field as a full-time starter in 2020. Nailor entered the 2019 season as a starter but missed nine games after the season opener due to a foot injury; he returned for the final three games of the season and helped spark a three-game winning streak to close out the year. The Spartans are 9-3 with Nailor in the lineup, including a 4-0 mark last season. As a freshman, Nailor showed his big-play ability with three touchdowns in eight games, including a 75-yard run at Indiana and a 48-yard reception on a flip pass against Purdue. In four games last season, Nailor had 15 receptions for 106 yards, highlighted by a five-catch, 50-yard performance in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl against Wake Forest.

Although he only played in the final six games of the season as a true freshman, **Tre Mosley** still ranked fourth on the team with 21 catches for 216 yards and is expected to have an even bigger role in the offense as a sophomore. He burst onto the scene with four grabs for 37 yards against No. 6 Penn State and continued to make an impact down the stretch, including eight catches for 73 against vs. Maryland and four receptions for 50 yards in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl victory over Wake Forest.

Redshirt sophomore **Jayden Reed**, who had to sit out the 2019 season after transferring from Western Michigan, should also make an immediate contribution on offense for the Spartans. Reed was a FWAA Freshman All-American in his lone season with the Broncos in 2017 with 56 catches for 797 yards and eight TDs; he also had 12 punt returns for 215 yards (17.9 avg.), including a 93-yarder returned for a score.

In addition, veterans **Laress Nelson** (Sr.) and **C.J. Hayes** (R-Jr.) bring starting experience to the group. A three-year letterwinner, Nelson has 19 catches for 191 yards in 32 career games, while Hayes has 14 receptions for 154 yards in 19 games.

Redshirt sophomore Jalen Nailor has proven to be a versatile weapon on offense during his career with the Spartans and will look to have a greater role during his third season in 2020.

Redshirt junior **Jahz Watts**, redshirt sophomore **Javez Alexander**, and redshirt freshmen **Nick Hunter**, **Cade McDonald** and **Tre'Von Morgan** round out the wide receivers for the Spartans.

The group will also welcome four true freshmen in the fall who signed National Letters of Intent with MSU: **Montorie Foster**, **Terry Lockett Jr.**, **Ian Stewart** and **Ricky White**.

TIGHT ENDS

Letterwinners returning (5):
- #44 Adam Berghorst (1L, So., 6-7, 260, Zeeland, Mich./Zeeland East, 5 games)
- #89 Matt Dotson (3L, Sr., 6-5, 240, Cincinnati, Ohio/Archbishop Moeller)
(8 games/4 starts, 16 catches, 151 yards, 9.4 avg., 1 TD, 18.9 ypg)
- #88 Trenton Gillison (1L, R-So., 6-4, 245, Pickerington, Ohio/Pickerington Central)
(12 games/3 starts, 12 catches, 147 yards, 12.2 avg., 0 TDs, 12.2 ypg)
- #81 Parks Gissinger (1L, R-So., 6-4, 235, Los Angeles, Calif./Chaminade College Prep)
(4 games, 1 catch, 5 yards, 5.0 avg., 0 TDs, 1.2 ypg)
- #49 Max Rosenthal (2L, R-Jr., 6-2, 270, Winnetka, Ill./New Trier Township)
(12 games/2 starts, 2 catches, 4 yards, 2.0 avg., 1 TD, 0.3 ypg)

Letterwinners lost (1):
- **MATT SEYBERT** (2L, 12 games/11 starts, 26 catches, 284 yards, 10.9 avg., 3 TDs, 23.7 ypg)

Although the Spartans lost starter Matt Seybert to graduation, five letterwinners return at tight end for the Spartans. The group will be coached by veteran **Ted Gilmore**, who has 25 years of experience at the FBS and NFL ranks.

Three-year letterwinner **Matt Dotson**, who unfortunately suffered a season-ending Achilles injury vs. Illinois on Nov. 9, has 32 receptions for 329 yards and two TDs in 31 career games and is back practicing this fall.

Redshirt sophomore **Trenton Gillison** showed off his potential in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl victory over Wake Forest, catching four passes for 88 yards, including a season-long 64-yard reception in the second quarter that set up a Spartan touchdown. For the season, Gillison had 12 catches for 147 yards in 12 games, including three starting assignments.

Max Rosenthal (R-Jr.), who was utilized more as an H-back last season after playing at fullback his first two seasons, also returns, while **Parks Gissinger** (R-So.) could see an increased role in his third season with the program. **Adam Berghorst**, who played in the last five games of the year after transitioning from defensive end to tight end midway through the season, pitched for the Spartan baseball team at the beginning of the spring but will help add depth at the position in the fall. **Reid Burton** (Sr.-5) also provides depth at tight end for MSU. In addition, MSU signed one freshman tight end to an NLI, **Tommy Guajardo**.

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The Spartans return 10 offensive lineman with multiple games of starting experience, including Kevin Jarvis, who has started 20 games in his career.

OFFENSIVE LINE

Letterwinners returning (11):
- #64 C **MATT ALLEN** (3L, R-Sr., 6-3, 300, 9 games/9 starts at C)
- #76 OT **A.J. ARCURI** (2L, R-Jr., 6-7, 300, 7 games/5 starts at LT)
- #66 C/OG Blake Bueter (2L, R-Jr., 6-4, 315, 11 games/2 starts at OG)
- #62 OL **LUKE CAMPBELL** (3L, R-Sr., 6-5, 285, 10 games/8 starts at LG and 1 start at RG)
- #56 RG **MATT CARRICK** (2L, R-Jr., 6-5, 320, 13 games/11 starts at RG)
- #67 LG **J.D. DUPLAIN** (1L, So., 6-4, 310, 10 games/5 starts at LG)
- #73 OG Jacob Isaia (1L, R-So., 6-3, 305, 6 games/1 start)
- #75 OL **KEVIN JARVIS** (2L, R-Jr., 6-6, 325, 3 games/3 starts at LT)
- #79 OT Mustafa Khaleefah (1L, R-Jr., 6-5, 320, 5 games)
- #55 RT **JORDAN REID** (3L, Sr., 6-5, 315, 13 games/13 starts at RT)*
- #59 OL Nick Samac (1L, So., 6-4, 300, 7 games/4 starts at C)

Letterwinners lost (4):
LT Cole Chewins (3L, did not play in 2019; two-year starter at LT in 2017-18), OL Tyler Higby (7 games/4 starts at LT), Bryce Wilker (1L), Tommy Liesveld (1L)

For the second season in a row, Michigan State suffered a rash of injuries on the offensive line in 2019, leading to seven different starting combinations in 13 games, including five of the last six games. The past 26 games in 2018 and 2019, MSU has had 16 different starting o-line combinations. The good news for the Spartans is that the o-line unit returns 11 letterwinners, including 10 with multiple games of starting experience. Veteran coach **Chris Kapilovic** will mentor the offensive line for the Spartans.

Three-year letterwinner and fifth-year senior **Matt Allen** returns for his third season as the starting center to lead the group. Allen started the first eight games at center in 2019 but missed the last four games of the regular season after suffering an injury against Penn State; he returned to action in the Pinstripe Bowl win against Wake Forest.

With all of the injuries in 2019, several young linemen gained critical experience, which should pay dividends in 2020. MSU was one of just two schools in the FBS last fall, along with Stanford, to start three true freshmen in the same game on the offensive line when **Devontae Dobbs** (LT), **J.D. Duplain** (LG) and **Nick Samac** (C) all started in the win at Rutgers. Dobbs kept his redshirt year after playing in just four games, while Duplain and Samac both started the final four games of the regular season to earn their letters.

The injuries especially took a toll at left tackle, as MSU started four different players at the position throughout the season.

Kevin Jarvis, who was a two-year starter at right guard, moved to left tackle at the beginning of the season due to preseason injuries to Cole Chewins and **AJ Arcuri**, and started the first three games before losing the remainder of his season following an injury against Arizona State in Week 3. Jarvis did preserve his redshirt season by playing in just three games. Tyler Higby then assumed the starting role for the next month, but he too was lost for the season due to a midseason injury, clearing the way for Arcuri to return as the starter for three games. Dobbs earned his first career start at Rutgers with Arcuri ailing, but Arcuri still played against the Scarlet Knights and finished out the year starting the final two games at left tackle for a total of five starts.

Left guard was split between **Luke Campbell**, who started the first eight games of the season at the position, and **J.D. Duplain**, who started the final five. Campbell brings a total of 26 games of starting experience to four different positions on the offensive line (12 at right tackle in 2017; nine at left guard in 2018-19; four at right guard in 2018-19; one at left tackle in 2018). Campbell nursed injuries much of 2019 and was forced out of action the final three games of the season.

Redshirt junior **Matt Carrick** held down the starting right guard spot in 11 games last year, while fellow junior redshirt **Blake Bueter** also has nine games of starting experience at both guard and center.

Senior **Jordan Reid** has started 26 consecutive games at right tackle and is the only offensive lineman to start every game the past two seasons, but has elected to opt out of the 2020 season. He played a team-high 964 snaps as a sophomore in 2018 and again led the team with 950 snaps in 2019. **Mustafa Khaleefah** (R-Jr.) earned his first letter last season and adds depth at the tackle position.

Spencer Brown (R-Fr.), **Jack Henrichs** (R-Jr.) and **Dan VanOpstall** (R-So.) also add depth at tackle, while **Damon Kaylor** (R-Fr.) and **James Ohonba** (R-So.) provide depth on the interior. Michigan State signed two offensive linemen in its 2020 recruiting class: **Dallas Fincher** and **Justin Stevens** (early enrollee/opting out of 2020 season).

PERSONNEL BRIEFING: DEFENSE

LETTERWINNERS BREAKDOWN (11 LOST, 21 RETURNING)

LOST	POSITION	RETURNING
KENNY WILLEKES (3)	DE	Drew Beesley (2)
MIKE PANASIUK (4)	DT	Naquan Jones (3)
RAEQUAN WILLIAMS (4)	NT	Jacob Slade (1)
	DE	**JACUB PANASIUK (3)**
		Jack Camper (2)
	STAR	**ANTJUAN SIMMONS (3)**
		Jeslord Boateng (1)
JOE BACHIE (4)	MIKE	
Dante Razzano (3)		
Peter Fisk (1)		
TYRIQ THOMPSON (4)$	SAM	Noah Harvey (2)#
		Chase Kline (1)
JOSIAH SCOTT (3)	FC	Julian Barnett (1)@
		Kalon Gervin (1)
		Davion Williams (1)
DAVID DOWELL (4)	FS	Tre Person (3)
Corey Pryor (1)		Emmanuel Flowers (1)
		David Kruse (1)
	BS	**XAVIER HENDERSON (2)**
		Dominique Long (3)
		Michael Dowell (1)
		Jack Mandryk (1)
Josh Butler (4)*	BC	**SHAKUR BROWN (2)^**
		Chris Jackson (1)

2019 STARTERS IN CAPS: (#) Indicates letters earned; Positions listed according to 2019 depth chart unless denoted.

** Butler started 7 of first 8 games in 2019; ^ Brown started final 5 games in 2019; $ Thompson started all 13 games (first 10 at Sam, last 3 at Mike); # Harvey started final 5 games at LB (2 at Star, 3 at Sam); @ Barnett played 13 games at WR but is listed as a CB in 2020*

DEFENSIVE LINE

Letterwinners returning (5):
- #86 DE Drew Beesley (2L, Sr.-5, 6-2, 260, Rochester Hills, Mich./Warren De La Salle) (13 games, 14 tackles, 6 TFLs, 1.5 sacks, 1 INT, 1 PBU, 1 FR)
- #91 DE Jack Camper (2L, R-Jr., 6-5, 250, Virginia Beach, Va./IMG Academy) (7 games, 1 tackle)
- #93 NT Naquan Jones (3L, Sr.-5, 6-4, 340, Evanston, Ill./Evanston Township) (13 games/1 start, 15 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack)
- #96 DE **JACUB PANASIUK** (3L, Sr., 6-4, 250, Roselle, Ill./Lake Park West) (13 games/13 starts, 34 tackles, 11 TFLs, 5 sacks, 1 PBU, 3 FF)
- #64 DT Jacob Slade (1L, R-So., 6-4, 310, Lewis Center, Ohio/Olentangy) (14 tackles, 2.5 TFLs, 1 sack, 1 PBU)

Letterwinners lost (3):
- DT **MIKE PANASIUK** (4L, 13 games/12 starts, 36 tackles, 9 TFLs, 2 sacks)
- DE **KENNY WILLEKES** (3L, 13 games/13 starts, 78 tackles, 16 TFLs, 10.5 sacks)
- NT **RAEQUAN WILLIAMS** (4L, 13 games/13 starts, 48 tackles, 7.5 TFLs, 5 sacks)

Jacub Panasiuk is the highest-graded returning pass rusher in the Big Ten and No. 2 overall among Power Five schools, according to Pro Football Focus. Panasiuk had five sacks and 11 tackles for loss as a junior in 2019.

Michigan State's defensive line lost three multi-year starters, as All-American defensive end Kenny Willekes (38 starts) and defensive tackles Mike Panasiuk (41 starts) and Raequan Williams (42 starts) all graduated in December. The line will see a familiar face coaching the room, however, as **Ron Burton** is in his eighth year at Michigan State. Burton, the only two-time winner of the FootballScoop Defensive Line Coach of the Year (2013, 2018), spent his first four years in East Lansing coaching the defensive line, then focused on defensive tackles from 2017-19. He is back to coaching the entire d-line under first-year head coach **Mel Tucker**, while Secchia Family Defensive Coordinator **Scottie Hazelton** will also assist with the defensive ends.

Senior **Jacub Panasiuk**, a two-year starter at defensive end, returns in 2020 to lead the group after posting career highs in tackles (34), tackles for loss (11) and sacks (5) last season as a junior. The younger Panasiuk has played in 38 career games, including 23 consecutive starts entering his final season with the Green and White, and has collected 80 tackles, 18.5 tackles for loss and eight sacks in his career.

On the other end of the line, fifth-year senior **Drew Beesley** has seen extensive action the past two seasons and could see an even more prominent role this upcoming fall. Beesley played 261 snaps in all 13 games last season and recorded six tackles for loss and 14 stops overall. Redshirt junior **Jack Camper** battled through injuries last season but has two years of playing experience, while **Zach Slade** (R-So.) missed the entire 2019 season due to a torn ACL but is rehabbing and could see time at the position in 2020.

Redshirt freshman **Michael Fletcher**, who was rated the No. 1 defensive end prospect in the state of Michigan coming out of high school, missed the first half of the 2019 season with an injury and preserved his redshirt year; he is likely to see increased playing time as well in 2020. **DeAri Todd** (R-Jr.) adds depth at the position.

Up the middle, the Spartans are losing two stalwarts in Mike Panasiuk and Raequan Williams, who started 41 career games alongside each other from 2017-19. Fifth-year senior **Naquan Jones** appears ready to take over a starting role after seeing regular time in the playing rotation the past three seasons. The 6-4, 340-pound native of Evanston, Illinois, has 54 tackles, including 7.5 TFLs and three sacks, in 39 career games. Redshirt sophomore **Jacob Slade** also gained valuable experience last season to earn his first letter, playing 262 snaps in all 13 games. He flashed his potential in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl, posting a career-best two tackles for loss and his first career sack.

Redshirt freshmen **Evan Brunning**, **Maverick Hansen**, **Jalen Hunt** and **Jacob Lafave** and redshirt sophomore **Dashaun Mallory** will all compete for playing time on the interior of the line.

The Spartans signed six defensive linemen in their 2020 recruiting class: DT **Simeon Barrow**, DE **Avery Dunn**, DL **Kyle King** (early enrollee), DL **Chris Mayfield**, DE **Jeff Pietrowski** and DE **Jasiyah Robinson.**

LINEBACKERS

Letterwinners returning (4):
- #33 Jeslord Boateng (1L, R-So., 6-2, 230, Dublin, Ohio/Dublin Coffman) (11 games, 10 tackles, 1 TFL)
- #45 Noah Harvey (2L, R-Jr., 6-4, 240, Hartland, Wis./Arrowhead) (13 games/5 starts, 49 tackles, 5 TFLs, 3 sacks, 4 PBUs, 1 FF)
- #21 Chase Kline (1L, R-So., 6-4, 235, Chardon, Ohio/Chardon) (13 games, 12 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack)
- **#34 ANTJUAN SIMMONS** (3L, Sr., 6-0, 225, Ann Arbor, Mich./Pioneer) (13 games/13 starts, 90 tackles, 15 TFLs, 3.5 sacks, 1 INT, 3 PBU)

Letterwinners lost (4):
- **JOE BACHIE** (4L, 8 games/8 starts, 71 tackles, 8.5 TFLs, 3.5 sacks, 1 INT, 4 PBUs)
- Peter Fisk (1L, 13 games, 1 tackle)
- Dante Razzano (3L, 6 games)
- **TYRIQ THOMPSON** (4L, 13 games/13 starts, 75 tackles, 2.5 TFLs, 1 sack, 1 INT)

Senior **Antjuan Simmons**, who had a breakout season with a team-leading 90 tackles and a career-best 15 tackles for loss as junior in 2019, returns to the starting lineup for the Spartans. He has been named to watch lists for the Bednarik Award and Lott IMPACT Trophy entering the season. Simmons started all 13 games (11 at weakside linebacker; two at middle linebacker) in 2019 and will be looked to lead the young group of linebackers that lost multi-year starters Joe Bachie (Mike) and Tyriq Thompson (Sam) to graduation.

Redshirt junior **Noah Harvey** also has starting experience after stepping up at the end of the 2019 campaign and starting the final five games (two at weakside linebacker, three at strongside linebacker). He ranked eighth on the team with a career-high 49 tackles, including 42 stops during his starting assignments, and had a career-high 14 tackles in the New Era Pinstripe Bowl victory over Wake Forest.

Redshirt sophomores **Jeslord Boateng** (10 tackles) and **Chase Kline** (12 tackles) both earned letters last year and should see their playing time increase this upcoming season.

The Spartans had two early enrollees at linebacker, **Cal Haladay** and **Devin Hightower**, while fellow true freshman **Cole DeMarzo** joined the team over the summer.

The linebacker room will be coached by first-year assistant **Ross Els**, who is also serving as the special teams coordinator.

SECONDARY

Letterwinners returning (12):
- #2 CB Julian Barnett (1L, So., 6-2, 190, Detroit, Mich./Belleville) (13 games/2 starts, 13 catches, 182 yards, 14.0 avg., 0 TDs, 14.0 ypg)*
  ** Barnett lettered as a wide receiver in 2019*
- #29 CB **SHAKUR BROWN** (2L, R-Jr., 5-11, 190, Stockbridge, Ga./Woodland) (7 games/5 starts, 23 tackles, 2 TFLs, 2 sacks, 1 INT, 5 PBUs)
- #10 S Michael Dowell (1L, R-So., 6-1, 215, North Ridgeville, Ohio/St. Edward) (13 games, 15 tackles, 1 FR, 1 PBU)
- #20 S Emmanuel Flowers (1L, R-Jr., 6-2, 195, Chino Hills, Calif./Ayala, 11 games, 1 tackle)
- #18 CB Kalon Gervin (1L, R-So., 5-11, 190, Detroit, Mich./Cass Tech) (10 games/1 start, 8 tackles)
- #3 S **XAVIER HENDERSON** (2L, Jr., 6-1, 210, Reynoldsburg, Ohio/Pickerington Central) (13 games/13 starts, 83 tackles, 2 TFLs, 2 INTs, 5 PBUs)
- #12 CB Chris Jackson (R-So., 6-0, 200, Marietta, Ga./Lassiter, 5 games, 1 tackle)
- #49 S David Kruse (1L, R-So., 6-0, 200, Lowell, Mich./Lowell, 6 games)
- #9 CB Dominique Long (3L, Sr., 6-2, 195, Westerville, Ohio/Westerville South) (13 games, 16 tackles, 1 PBU)
- #43 S Jack Mandryk (1L, R-Jr., 6-1, 200, Hudsonville, Mich./Hudsonville) (13 games, 10 tackles)
- #24 S Tre Person (3L, Sr., 5-11, 170, Atlanta, Ga./Westlake) (12 games, 10 tackles, 3 PBUs)
- #14 CB Davion Williams (1L, R-So., 6-0, 180, Belleville, Mich./Belleville) (13 games, 6 tackles)

Letterwinners lost (4):
CB Josh Butler (4L, 13 games/7 starts, 25 tackles, 1.5 TFLs, 5 PBUs)
S DAVID DOWELL (4L, 13 games/13 starts, 55 tackles, 0.5 TFLs, 1 INT, 2 PBUs, 1 FR)
S Corey Pryor (1L)
CB JOSIAH SCOTT (3L, 13 games/13 starts, 55 tackles, 3 INTs, 8 PBUs, 1 FR, 1 FF)

Former Spartan All-American **Harlon Barnett**, who coached the secondary at MSU for 11 seasons from 2007-17, returns in 2020 to coach the cornerbacks, while longtime Spartan defensive assistant **Mike Tressel** will coach the safeties.

In his first season as a starting safety, Xavier Henderson ranked second on the team with 83 tackles and also had two interceptions as a sophomore in 2019.

Although the Spartans are losing two three-year starters in safety David Dowell and cornerback Josiah Scott, the secondary still returns 11 letterwinners in 2020.

At cornerback, redshirt junior **Shakur Brown** started the final five games of the season and ranked tied for second on the team with five pass break-ups. He missed six games due to injury after a strong opener in which he recorded two sacks against Tulsa, but bounced back to become a starter in the second half of the year. Redshirt sophomore **Kalon Gervin** also has starting experience after earning the assignment at corner at Ohio State, and played in 10 games overall with eight tackles.

Redshirt sophomores **Davion Williams** and **Chris Jackson** are also returning letterwinners who will compete for playing time. Sophomore **Julian Barnett**, an Under Armour All-American in 2018, was ranked one of the top cornerbacks in the nation coming out of high school but played wide receiver as a freshman in 2019 with 13 catches for 182 yards; he is likely to see action on the defensive side of the ball in his second season but also has the ability to play wide receiver.

Senior **Dominique Long**, who was named Michigan State's 2019 special teams player of the year for his coverage of kicks and punts, has rotated between cornerback and safety during his career, but will begin the season at cornerback and will look to break into the playing rotation.

Walk-ons **Joe Stevens** (R-So.) and **Torrell Williams** (R-Fr.) provide depth at the position.

Junior **Xavier Henderson** returns as one of the starting safeties after ranking second on the team with 83 tackles during his sophomore campaign in 2019. He also had two interceptions and two tackles for loss in starting all 13 games and playing 838 snaps, most in the secondary and second-most overall on the defense.

Senior **Tre Person** has played at both cornerback and safety during his career, including four starts at cornerback in 2018, but he primarily played safety last season. Redshirt sophomore **Michael Dowell** played 94 snaps last year, primarily in third-down situations, and will also compete for additional playing time. Returning letterwinners **Emmanuel Flowers** (R-Jr.), **David Kruse** (R-So.) and **Jack Mandryk** (R-Jr.) provide depth at the position, along with redshirt freshman **Tate Hallock**, who played four games on special teams as a true freshman in 2019.

The Spartans had two early enrollees in the secondary: cornerback **Angelo Grose** and safety **Darius Snow**.

PERSONNEL BRIEFING: SPECIAL TEAMS

• **Placekicker:** Fifth-year senior **Matt Coghlin** has been the team's starting placekicker for the past three seasons and enters 2020 ranked tied for fifth in school history with 55 field goals made. Coghlin was a BTN All-Freshman Team honoree in 2017 (15-of-19 on FGs) and was 18-of-22 on field-goal attempts as a sophomore to earn first-team All-Big Ten honors by the media. Last season, Coghlin made a career-high 22 field goals, tied for second most in MSU single-season history; that total also ranked second in the conference and tied for 11th in the FBS. Coghlin, however, is looking to improve his accuracy his senior season (22-of-32, .688 in 2019). Redshirt junior **Cole Hahn**, redshirt freshman **Evan Morris** and true freshman **Jack Olsen** will also compete for the position.

• **Punter:** Following the departure of longtime starter Jake Hartbarger, the Spartans are looking for a new starting punter in 2020. Hartbarger received a sixth year of eligibility from the NCAA in 2019 and was the program's starting punter dating back to 2015. Redshirt freshman **Evan Morris** will compete along with redshirt junior **Tyler Hunt**, who was the team's emergency punter for five games in 2018 following Hartbarger's season-ending injury. Redshirt junior **Bryce Baringer**, who joined the team as a walk-on and punted 15 times in 2018, did not play last season but returns to the roster in 2020. Graduate transfer **Mitchell Crawford**, a two-year starter from UTEP, also joins the team in 2020.

• **Long Snapper:** Sophomore **Jude Pedrozo** had to take over the starting duties last season as a true freshman following a season-ending injury to fifth-year senior **Ryan Armour** in the season opener. Pedrozo is back in 2020 after an impressive first season in which he was expected to likely redshirt.

• **Kickoff specialist:** Redshirt junior **Cole Hahn** was the team's primary kickoff specialist last season, averaging 57.1 yards with nine touchbacks on 52 kickoffs. **Evan Morris**, who only kicked in two games (Western Michigan, Arizona State) to preserve his redshirt year, averaged 59.9 yards and had five touchbacks on 11 kickoffs.

Matt Coghlin enters the 2020 season ranked fifth in MSU history with 55 field goals made.

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NUMERICAL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.	CL.	EXP.	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
2	Julian Barnett	CB	6-2	190	So.	So.	1L	Detroit, Mich. (Belleville)
3	Xavier Henderson	S	6-1	210	Jr.	Jr.	2L	Reynoldsburg, Ohio (Pickerington Central)
3	Terry Lockett Jr.	WR	6-0	180	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Minneapolis, Minn. (Minnehaha Academy)
4	Matt Coghlin	K	5-9	195	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
4	C.J. Hayes	WR	6-2	200	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Bowling Green, Ky. (South Warren)
5	Michael Fletcher	DE	6-6	250	Fr.	So.	RS	Flint, Mich. (Carman-Ainsworth)
5	Jayden Reed	WR	6-0	185	So.	Jr.	SQ	Naperville, Ill. (Western Michigan)
6	Theo Day	QB	6-5	225	So.	Jr.	SQ	Canton, Mich. (Divine Child)
7	Ricky White	WR	6-1	175	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Marietta, Ga. (Marietta)
8	Simeon Barrow	DT	6-2	270	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Grovetown, Ga. (Grovetown HS)
8	Jalen Nailor	WR	6-0	185	So.	Jr.	1L	Palmdale, Calif. (Bishop Gorman)
9	Dominique Long	CB	6-2	195	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Westerville, Ohio (Westerville South)
9	Anthony Williams	RB	6-1	205	So.	So.	1L	Chicago, Ill. (Bolingbrook)
10	Michael Dowell	S	6-1	215	So.	Jr.	1L	North Ridgeville, Ohio (St. Edward)
10	Payton Thorne	QB	6-2	210	Fr.	So.	RS	Naperville, Ill. (Naperville Central)
11	Connor Heyward	RB	6-0	230	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Duluth, Ga. (Peachtree Ridge)
12	Chris Jackson	CB	6-0	200	So.	Jr.	1L	Marietta, Ga. (Lassiter)
12	Rocky Lombardi	QB	6-4	225	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Clive, Iowa (Valley)
13	Marcel Lewis	LB	6-0	225	Fr.	So.	RS	Eastpointe, Mich. (Chippewa Valley)
13	Laress Nelson	WR	5-8	180	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (American Heritage)
14	Noah Kim	QB	6-2	170	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Centreville, Va. (Westfield)
14	Davion Williams	CB	6-0	180	So.	Jr.	1L	Belleville, Mich. (Belleville)
15	Sebastian Brown	WR	6-3	185	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)
15	Angelo Grose	CB	5-10	180	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Mansfield, Ohio (Mansfield Senior)
16	Eli McLean	QB	6-2	205	So.	Jr.	SQ	Clarkston, Mich. (Notre Dame Prep)
16	Joe Stevens	CB	5-9	180	So.	Jr.	RS	Northville, Mich. (Harrison)
17	Tre Mosley	WR	6-2	200	So.	So.	1L	Pontiac, Mich. (West Bloomfield)
18	Kalon Gervin	CB	5-11	190	So.	Jr.	1L	Detroit, Mich. (Cass Technical)
18	Tre'Von Morgan	WR	6-7	230	Fr.	So.	RS	Massillon, Ohio (Massillon Washington)
19	Zach Gillespie	QB	6-2	210	Fr.	Fr.	HS	East Lansing, Mich. (Lansing Catholic)
20	Emmanuel Flowers	S	6-2	195	Jr.	Sr.	1L	Chino Hills, Calif. (Ayala)
21	Chase Kline	LB	6-4	235	So.	Jr.	1L	Chardon, Ohio (Chardon)
21	Andrew Schorfaar	QB	6-2	195	Fr.	Fr.	HS	DeWitt, Mich. (DeWitt)
22	Jordon Simmons	RB	5-11	195	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Marietta, Ga. (McEachern)
22	Justin White	CB	5-8	162	So.	So.	TR	Agoura Hills, Calif., Calif. (Colorado Mesa)
23	Darius Snow	S	6-1	205	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Frisco, Texas (Hebron)
23	Andre Welch	RB	5-9	175	Sr.	Jr.	1L	East Kentwood, Mich. (East Kentwood)
24	Elijah Collins	RB	6-1	220	So.	Jr.	1L	Detroit, Mich. (University of Detroit Jesuit)
24	Tre Person	S	5-11	170	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Atlanta, Ga. (Westlake)
25	Cole DeMarzo	LB	6-4	210	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Hilton Head Island, S.C. (Hilton Head)
25	Joseph Martinez	WR	5-9	185	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Holt, Mich. (Holt)
26	Brandon Wright	RB	6-2	240	So.	So.	1L	Euclid, Ohio (Euclid)
27	Cal Haladay	LB	6-1	210	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Elysburg, Pa. (Southern Columbia)
28	Tate Hallock	S	6-4	195	Fr.	So.	RS	Grand Rapids, Mich. (Forest Hills Central)
29	Shakur Brown	CB	5-11	190	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Stockbridge, Ga. (Woodland)
30	Chris Mayfield	DT	6-2	285	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Hilliard, Ohio (Hilliard Bradley)
31	Kobe Myers	LB	6-1	215	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Pontiac, Mich. (Blair Academy)
32	Zach Denha	DB	6-0	185	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Rochester Hills, Mich. (Stony Creek)
32	Donovan Eaglin	RB	5-11	230	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Rosharon, Texas (Manvel)
33	Jeslord Boateng	LB	6-2	230	So.	Jr.	1L	Dublin, Ohio (Dublin Coffman)
34	Antjuan Simmons	LB	6-0	225	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Ann Arbor, Mich. (Pioneer)
35	Sam Edwards	LB	6-0	215	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Williamston, Mich. (Lansing Catholic)
36	Torrell Williams	CB	5-10	175	Fr.	So.	RS	Detroit, Mich. (Cranbrook-Kingswood)
37	Devin Hightower	LB	5-11	220	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Twinsburg, Ohio (Hoban)
38	Luke Fulton	LB	6-4	225	Fr.	So.	RS	Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney)
39	Alante Thomas	RB	5-9	190	Sr.	Sr.-5	SQ	Detroit, Mich. (Saginaw Valley State)
40	Jude Pedrozo	LS	6-1	240	So.	So.	1L	Westerville, Ohio (Westerville South)
41	Reid Burton	TE	6-1	210	Sr.	Sr.-5	SQ	East Lansing, Mich. (East Lansing)
41	Charles Willekes	LB	6-1	225	Fr.	So.	RS	Rockford, Mich. (NorthPointe Christian)
42	Nick Hunter	WR	5-10	190	Fr.	So.	RS	Grayling, Mich. (Grayling)

EXP. KEY - HS: High School; RS: Redshirted; JC: Junior College; TR: Transfer; SQ: Squad Member; L: Letters Earned.

NUMERICAL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.	CL.	EXP.	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
43	Jack Mandryk	S	6-1	200	Jr.	Sr.	1L	Hudsonville, Mich. (Hudsonville)
44	Adam Berghorst	TE	6-7	260	So.	So.	1L	Zeeland, Mich. (Zeeland East)
45	Noah Harvey	LB	6-4	240	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Hartland, Wis. (Arrowhead)
47	Jackson Morse	TE	6-3	230	So.	So.	TR	East Lansing, Mich. (Davenport)
47	Jeff Pietrowski	DE	6-1	245	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Medina, Ohio (St. Edward)
48	Bryce Eimer	LS	5-9	190	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Richland, N.J. (St. Augustine Prep High School)
49	David Kruse	S	6-0	200	So.	Jr.	1L	Lowell, Mich. (Lowell)
49	Max Rosenthal	TE	6-2	270	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Winnetka, Ill. (New Trier Township Winnetka)
51	Nolan Rossback	LS	6-1	200	So.	So.	TR	Hudsonville, Mich. (Illinois)
52	Kyle King	DE	6-3	260	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Greenfield, Ind. (New Palestine)
54	Jack Henrichs	OT	6-7	315	Jr.	Sr.	SQ	Mequon, Wis. (Homestead)
54	Jack Saylor	DE	6-2	245	Jr.	So.	SQ	Rochester, Mich. (Ohio Dominican)
55	Jordan Reid	OT	6-5	315	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Mount Clemens, Mich. (Cass Tech)
55	Zach Slade	DE	6-4	245	So.	Jr.	SQ	Lewis Center, Ohio (Olentangy)
56	Matt Carrick	OG	6-5	320	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Minerva, Ohio (Perry)
57	Evan Brunning	DT	6-5	325	Fr.	So.	RS	Oxford, Mich. (Oxford)
58	Spencer Brown	OL	6-6	310	Fr.	So.	RS	Commerce Township, Mich. (Walled Lake Western)
58	Terry O'Connor	LB	6-3	220	So.	Jr.	SQ	Traverse City, Mich. (Traverse City Central)
59	Nick Samac	OL	6-4	300	So.	So.	1L	Mentor, Ohio (Mentor)
62	Luke Campbell	OL	6-5	285	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Lewis Center, Ohio (Olentangy)
63	Jacob Lafave	DT	6-4	270	Fr.	So.	RS	Brighton, Mich. (Brighton)
63	Justin Stevens	OL	6-6	300	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia (Clarkson)
64	Matt Allen	C	6-3	300	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Hinsdale, Ill. (Hinsdale Central)
64	Jacob Slade	DT	6-4	310	So.	Jr.	1L	Lewis Center, Ohio (Olentangy)
66	Blake Bueter	OL	6-4	315	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Howell, Mich. (Detroit Catholic Central)
67	J.D. Duplain	OL	6-4	310	So.	So.	1L	Strongsville, Ohio (Strongsville)
68	Dan VanOpstall	OL	6-6	305	So.	Jr.	SQ	Jenison, Mich. (Jenison)
70	Dallas Fincher	OL	6-4	265	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Kentwood, Mich. (East Kentwood)
71	James Ohonba	OL	6-4	305	So.	Jr.	SQ	Stockbridge, Ga. (Woodland)
72	Damon Kaylor	OL	6-5	315	Fr.	So.	RS	Huntington, Ind. (Huntington North)
73	Jacob Isaia	OL	6-3	305	So.	Jr.	1L	Las Vegas, Nev. (Bishop Gorman)
74	Devontae Dobbs	OL	6-5	305	Fr.	So.	RS	Detroit, Mich. (Belleville)
75	Kevin Jarvis	OL	6-6	325	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Chicago, Ill. (Maine South)
76	AJ Arcuri	OT	6-7	300	Sr.	Sr.-5	2L	Powell, Ohio (Olentangy Liberty)
79	Mustafa Khaleefah	OT	6-5	320	Jr.	Sr.	1L	Dearborn Heights, Mich. (Dearborn)
80	Ian Stewart	WR	6-3	220	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Woodhaven, Mich. (O.A. Carlson)
81	Parks Gissinger	TE	6-4	235	So.	Jr.	1L	Los Angeles, Calif. (Chaminade College Prep)
82	Javez Alexander	WR	6-2	180	So.	Jr.	SQ	Sandusky, Ohio (Sandusky)
82	Jack Olsen	K	5-9	180	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Wheaton, Ill. (Wheaton-Warrenville)
83	Montorie Foster	WR	6-0	180	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Cleveland, Ohio (St. Edward)
84	Tommy Guajardo	TE	6-3	225	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Dearborn, Mich. (Dearborn)
85	Cade McDonald	WR	5-11	200	Fr.	So.	RS	Naperville, Ill. (Naperville Central)
86	Drew Beesley	DE	6-2	260	Sr.	Sr.-5	2L	Rochester Hills, Mich. (Warren De La Salle)
86	Aubrey Dawkins	WR	5-10	175	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Verona, Wis. (Verona)
87	Jasiyah Robinson	DE	6-1	245	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Groveport, Ohio (Groveport Madison)
87	Jahz Watts	WR	6-0	185	Jr.	Sr.	1L	Belleville, Mich. (Belleville)
88	Trenton Gillison	TE	6-4	245	So.	Jr.	1L	Pickerington, Ohio (Pickerington Central)
89	Matt Dotson	TE	6-5	240	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
89	Jalen Hunt	DT	6-4	330	Fr.	So.	RS	Belleville, Mich. (Belleville)
91	Jack Camper	DE	6-5	250	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Virginia Beach, Va. (IMG Academy)
92	Evan Morris	P/K	6-5	235	Fr.	So.	RS	Elsie, Mich. (Ovid-Elsie)
92	DeAri Todd	DE	6-2	265	Jr.	Sr.	SQ	Lorain, Ohio (Clearview)
93	Naquan Jones	DT	6-4	340	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Evanston, Ill. (Evanston Township)
94	Mitchell Crawford	P	6-0	185	Sr.	Gr.	TR	Townsville, Queensland, Australia (UTEP)
94	Dashaun Mallory	DT	6-2	345	So.	Jr.	SQ	Bolingbrook, Ill. (Bolingbrook)
96	Jacub Panasiuk	DE	6-4	250	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Roselle, Ill. (Lake Park West)
97	Maverick Hansen	DT	6-4	290	Fr.	So.	RS	Farmington Hills, Mich. (Harrison)
97	Tyler Hunt	K/P	6-2	235	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Gobles, Mich. (Gobles)
98	Avery Dunn	DE	6-4	230	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Shaker Heights, Ohio (Shaker Heights)
98	Cole Hahn	K	5-11	205	Jr.	Sr.	2L	West Des Moines, Iowa (Valley)
99	Bryce Baringer	P	6-0	205	Jr.	Sr.	1L	Waterford, Mich. (Illinois)

EXP. KEY - HS: High School; RS: Redshirted; JC: Junior College; TR: Transfer; SQ: Squad Member; L: Letters Earned.

SCHEDULES & RESULTS

2020 SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME (ET)	TV	OPPONENT (2019 RECORD)	2019-20 BOWL	SERIES RECORD	LAST MEETING
Oct. 24	12 p.m.	BTN	RUTGERS (2-10)	-	MSU leads, 8-3	2019: MSU 27, Rutgers 0
Oct. 31	TBA	TBA	at Michigan* (9-4)	Citrus (L)	UM leads, 71-36-5	2019: Michigan 44, MSU 10
Nov. 7	TBA	TBA	at Iowa (10-3)	Holiday (W)	Iowa leads, 23-22-2	2017: MSU 17, Iowa 10
Nov. 14	TBA	TBA	INDIANA* (8-5)	Gator (L)	MSU leads, 48-16-2	2019: MSU 40, Indiana 31
Nov. 21	TBA	TBA	at Maryland (3-9)	-	MSU leads, 9-2	2019: MSU 19, Maryland 16
Nov. 28	TBA	TBA	NORTHWESTERN (3-9)	-	MSU leads, 38-20	2019: MSU 31, Northwestern 10
Dec. 5	TBA	TBA	OHIO STATE (13-1)	Fiesta-CFP (L)	OSU leads, 33-15	2019: OSU 34, MSU 10
Dec. 12	TBA	TBA	at Penn State (11-2)	Cotton (W)	MSU leads, 17-16-1	2019: PSU 28, MSU 7
Dec. 19	TBA	TBA	Big Ten Champions Week	-	-	-

2019 RESULTS (7-6, 4-5 B1G)

DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT	ATTENDANCE	SITE
Aug. 30	TULSA	W, 28-7	72,005	Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.
Sept. 7	WESTERN MICHIGAN	W, 51-17	73,113	Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.
Sept. 14	ARIZONA STATE	L, 7-10	73,531	Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.
Sept. 21	at Northwestern	W, 31-10	40,114	Ryan Field, Evanston, Ill.
Sept. 28	INDIANA (HC)	W, 40-31	71,048	Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.
Oct. 5	at No. 4/5 Ohio State	L, 10-34	104,797	Ohio Stadium, Columbus, Ohio
Oct. 12	at No. 8/8 Wisconsin	L, 0-38	80,470	Camp Randall Stadium, Madison, Wis.
Oct. 26	No. 6/6 PENN STATE	L, 7-28	70,298	Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.
Nov. 9	ILLINOIS	L, 34-37	63,370	Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.
Nov. 16	at No. 14/14 Michigan	L, 10-44	111,496	Michigan Stadium, Ann Arbor, Mich.
Nov. 23	at Rutgers	W, 27-0	24,641	SHI Stadium, Piscataway, N.J.
Nov. 30	MARYLAND	W, 19-16	51,366	Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.
Dec. 31	vs. Wake Forest (Pinstripe Bowl)	W, 27-21	36,895	Yankee Stadium, New York, N.Y.

** Rankings: AP/Coaches*

FUTURE SCHEDULES*

2021

Sept. 4	at Northwestern
Sept. 11	YOUNGSTOWN STATE
Sept. 18	at Miami (Fla.)
Sept. 25	NEBRASKA
Oct. 2	WESTERN KENTUCKY (HC)
Oct. 16	at Michigan
Oct. 23	PENN STATE
Oct. 30	at Ohio State
Nov. 6	at Purdue
Nov. 13	INDIANA
Nov. 20	at Rutgers
Nov. 27	MARYLAND

2022

Sept. 3	WESTERN MICHIGAN
Sept. 10	AKRON
Sept. 17	at Boise State
Sept. 24	OHIO STATE
Oct. 1	at Illinois
Oct. 8	WISCONSIN (HC)
Oct. 22	MICHIGAN
Oct. 29	at Penn State
Nov. 5	MINNESOTA
Nov. 12	RUTGERS
Nov. 19	at Indiana
Nov. 26	at Maryland

2023

Sept. 2	CENTRAL MICHIGAN
Sept. 9	RICHMOND
Sept. 16	BOISE STATE
Sept. 23	MARYLAND
Oct. 7	at Michigan
Oct. 14	PENN STATE
Oct. 21	at Iowa
Oct. 28	at Minnesota
Nov. 4	INDIANA (HC)
Nov. 11	at Ohio State
Nov. 18	NEBRASKA
Nov. 25	at Rutgers

2024

Aug. 31	FLORIDA ATLANTIC
Sept. 7	TBA
Sept. 14	TBA
Sept. 21	at Boston College
Sept. 28	at Maryland
Oct. 5	MINNESOTA
Oct. 12	NORTHWESTERN (HC)
Oct. 19	at Indiana
Oct. 26	at Purdue
Nov. 2	MICHIGAN
Nov. 16	RUTGERS
Nov. 23	OHIO STATE
Nov. 30	at Penn State

2025

Aug. 30	WESTERN MICHIGAN
Sept. 6	YOUNGSTOWN STATE
Sept. 20	BOSTON COLLEGE
Sept. 27	at Minnesota
Oct. 11	at Michigan
Oct. 18	INDIANA
Oct. 25	at Wisconsin
Nov. 1	MARYLAND
Nov. 8	ILLINOIS
Nov. 15	at Rutgers
Nov. 22	at Ohio State
Nov. 29	PENN STATE

FUTURE GAMES

Sept. 11, 2027	CENTRAL MICHIGAN
Sept. 9, 2028	at Washington
Sept. 8, 2029	OREGON
Aug. 31, 2030	CENTRAL MICHIGAN
Sept. 7, 2030	at Oregon
Sept. 7, 2031	WASHINGTON

** Please note: With the updated 2020 conference-only schedule, six Division games had the location changed, including two for MSU (Michigan State at Michigan, Indiana at Michigan State).Given the unique circumstances that went into this year's scheduling process, flexibility in the schedule was prioritized. The rotation of these games in future seasons will be reset based on this year's location.*

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HEAD COACH MEL TUCKER

MEL TUCKER, A 23-YEAR COACHING VETERAN WITH CHAMPIONSHIP EXPERIENCE, WAS NAMED MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY'S 25TH HEAD FOOTBALL COACH ON FEB. 12, 2020.

Tucker's resume, which began as a graduate assistant at Michigan State under Nick Saban, has an impressive track record of success. The journey that has led him back to East Lansing includes a head coaching position at the University of Colorado (2019), five seasons as a defensive coach in the Southeastern Conference (2000; 2015-18), 10 seasons in the NFL (2005-14), and four seasons at Ohio State (2001-04). He was a defensive coordinator in the NFL for seven seasons and 11 seasons overall in his coaching career.

"I love the positives of the Michigan State Football legacy," said Tucker at his introductory press conference. "I cannot be more fired up about being part of this culture; this is a winning culture.

"I promise you that we will do everything to prepare, practice and play relentless and accountable football with toughness and integrity. We will do that. We have much to live up to and much to prove, and I believe the time is right now."

In 142 games as a full-time coach in the FBS, Tucker's teams have collected a 106-36 (.746) record, including 10 postseason bowl games (2000 Peach, 2002 Outback, 2003 Fiesta/BCS National Championship, 2004 Fiesta, 2004 Alamo, 2015 Cotton/CFP Semifinal, 2016 CFP/National Championship, 2016 Liberty, 2018 Rose/CFP Semifinal, 2018 CFP/National Championship), three conference championships, three national championship games and two national championships (2002 with Ohio State, 2015 with Alabama). He coached 160 games in the National Football League (64 with Cleveland, 64 with Jacksonville, 32 with Chicago).

The 48-year-old Tucker is nationally recognized as a top recruiter and developer of talent, working with numerous NFL Draft selections, including 12 first-rounders, and multiple All-Americans and Pro Bowlers. He has been on staffs with some of the top collegiate coaches in the game, including Saban, Mark Dantonio, Kirby Smart and Jim Tressel.

Although he has yet to coach a game at Michigan State, Tucker has helped lead the Spartan program through an offseason that has been filled with challenges. He has demonstrated a forward-thinking approach for adjusting to adverse conditions, especially for a new staff, by adapting to the most up-to-date technology while maintaining connection. In response to societal issues, Tucker launched a website titled "Communicate, Educate, Resources" that contains a multitude of information on a variety of topics, including voting rights and registration, social justice causes and mental health awareness. A member of the Big Ten Anti-Hate and Anti-Racism Coalition, he has also invited numerous local and state government representatives, along with other industry leaders, to speak to the team. In addition, Tucker has embraced social media as a way to connect with the new Spartan fan base and recruits, bringing energy and enthusiasm to the program with his "Relentless" philosophy.

During his first season as a collegiate head coach at Colorado in 2019, Tucker posted wins against Washington, Stanford, Arizona State, Nebraska and Colorado State en route to a 5-7 overall record. The three Pac-12 wins were the second most by the Buffaloes since joining the conference in 2011. Six players earned All-Pac-12 honors, including first-team linebacker Nate Landman, who ranked fourth in the league with 109 tackles. Colorado's 2020 recruiting class was ranked No. 35 in the nation by 247Sports, the highest for the Buffaloes since 2008.

Prior to accepting the head coaching role at Colorado, Tucker spent three seasons (2016-18) as the defensive coordinator and secondary coach at Georgia. The Bulldogs

Mel Tucker was introduced as Michigan State University's 25th head football coach on Feb. 12, 2020, at the Izzo Hall of History inside the Breslin Center (pictured with his wife, JoEllyn, and sons, Joseph and Christian).

were 32-9 under Tucker's leadership of the defensive unit and finished in the FBS Top 20 for total defense three consecutive years (No. 16 in 2016; No. 6 in 2017; No. 13 in 2018). One of the staff's top recruiters, Tucker was ranked as the No. 14 recruiter in the nation by 247Sports based off the class he helped signed before the 2018 season.

UGA had a banner year in 2017, finishing No. 2 in the national polls with a 13-2 record after winning the SEC title over Auburn and the College Football Playoff Semifinal at the Rose Bowl against Oklahoma, while playing in the CFP National Championship vs. Alabama. Georgia's defense finished second in the SEC and sixth nationally in both scoring defense (16.4 ppg) and in total defense (294.9 ypg), while also finishing second in the conference in rushing defense. Roquan Smith, who was named a unanimous All-American, won the Butkus Award as the nation's top linebacker and was the eighth-pick overall in 2018 NFL Draft. Tucker also mentored cornerback DeAndre Baker at Georgia, who won the 2018 Jim Thorpe Award, was named a first-team All-American, and was drafted in the first round of the 2019 NFL Draft (No. 30 overall) by the Giants. Both Smith and Baker also earned first-team All-SEC honors.

COACH MEL TUCKER
PLAYER
DEVELOPMENT
HAS RECRUITED AND COACHED 12 NFL FIRST-ROUNDERS,
MULTIPLE PRO BOWL PLAYERS, AND WINNERS OF THE
HEISMAN TROPHY, BUTKUS AWARD AND THORPE AWARD

Tucker arrived in Athens after helping Alabama win the 2015 national championship as the assistant head coach/defensive backs coach in his lone season in Tuscaloosa under Saban. Tucker worked with future NFL first-rounders and Pro Bowlers Marlon Humphrey and Minkah Fitzpatrick, along with first-team All-SEC safety and eventual Pro Bowler Eddie Jackson, during the Crimson Tide's national championship season, which included wins over Florida for the SEC Championship, Michigan State in the CFP Semifinal/Cotton Bowl, and Clemson in the CFP National Championship. It marked the third time Tucker was hired by Saban.

Saban originally gave Tucker his first job in the coaching profession as a graduate assistant at Michigan State for two seasons (1997-98), where he worked directly under Dantonio, the winningest coach in Spartan history.

Tucker landed his first full-time position in 1999 as a defensive backs coach at Miami (Ohio) for Terry Hoeppner, then reunited with Saban at LSU for one season in 2000 before joining Jim Tressel's staff at Ohio State for four years (2001-04) coaching defensive backs. Under Tressel, Tucker helped the

Buckeyes go 14-0 in 2002 while winning the BCS National Championship over Miami (Fla.) in the Fiesta Bowl. Tucker, who was promoted to co-defensive coordinator in his final season at OSU in 2004, helped OSU collect a 40-11 record during his four seasons in Columbus. He also recruited exceptionally well for the Buckeyes, directly helping bring in four future first-round picks (WR Ted Ginn Jr.; WR Anthony Gonzalez; CB Vernon Gholston; DB Malcom Jenkins) and Troy Smith, the 2006 Heisman Trophy winner. During Tucker's time in Columbus, he coached four first-team All-Americans (S Mike Doss; S Will Allen; S Donte Whitner; LB A.J. Hawk) and four first-round NFL Draft picks on defense (CB Chris Gamble; LB Bobby Carpenter; Hawk; Whitner), along with multiple first-team All-Big Ten selections.

Following his successful stint at Ohio State, Tucker moved up to the professional ranks to coach his hometown Cleveland Browns as the secondary coach under Romeo Crennel, who had previously won a Super Bowl as a defensive coordinator for the Patriots. Tucker was promoted to defensive coordinator in 2008, and the Browns finished the season ranked second in the NFL in interceptions (23) and 16th in scoring defense (21.9 ppg). For his four seasons overall with Cleveland from 2005-08, the Browns ranked fifth in the league with 73 interceptions, seventh in passing yards allowed and gave up the fourth-fewest completions of 25-plus yards.

Tucker continued his coaching career in the NFL with the Jacksonville Jaguars. He was hired by Jack Del Rio to be the defensive coordinator and secondary coach in 2009, then moved solely into the defensive coordinator role for the next two seasons. He served as the interim head coach for the final five games of the 2011 season, in which the Jaguars ranked sixth in the NFL in total defense (313.0 ypg). Tucker returned to Jacksonville for the 2012 season to be the assistant head coach and defensive coordinator under Mike Mularkey.

Tucker spent his last two seasons in the NFL as the defensive coordinator for the Chicago Bears working for Marc Trestman in 2013-14.

A 1995 graduate of the University of Wisconsin with his bachelor's degree in agricultural business management, Tucker was a member of the first recruiting class for Hall of Fame Coach Barry Alvarez. He lettered three times at both cornerback and safety from 1990-94 and was on the Badgers' 1993 Big Ten champion team that defeated UCLA in the Rose Bowl, 21-16. As a sophomore, he made a game-saving hit in the end zone with time running out that preserved a 19-16 win at Minnesota. He had 47 tackles and four pass deflections in his career (he missed his entire junior season after breaking a leg in fall camp).

Tucker remains close with several Badger teammates who have gone on to make their marks in football, including Troy Vincent (the NFL executive vice president for football operations), Chris Ballard (Indianapolis Colts general manager) and Darrell Bevell (Detroit Lions offensive coordinator).

He was born Melvin Tucker II on Jan. 4, 1972, in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated from Cleveland Heights High School, where he was an all-state performer in football and an all-conference basketball player. He is married to the former JoEllyn Haynesworth, who earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois and her law degree from Rutgers University. The couple has two sons born on the same day (Feb. 18) two years apart, Joseph and Christian.

TUCKER'S CAREER RECORD - HEAD COACH

		Overall			Conference					
Year	School	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.	Finish	Bowl	Rk.
2019	Colorado	5	7	.417	3	6	.333	5th (Pac-12 South)	-	-
Totals		5	7	.417	3	6	.333	-	-	

TUCKER'S CAREER RECORD - ASSISTANT COACH (COLLEGE)

		Overall			Conference					
Year	School	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.	Finish	Bowl	Rk.
1999	Miami-Ohio	7	4	.636	6	2	.750	2nd (MAC East)	-	-
2000	LSU	8	4	.667	5	3	.625	2nd (SEC West)	Peach Bowl Champs	22/-
2001	Ohio State	7	5	.583	5	3	.625	3rd (Big Ten)	Outback Bowl	-
2002	Ohio State	14	0	1.000	8	0	1.000	1st (Big Ten)	BCS National Champs	1/1
2003	Ohio State	11	2	.846	6	2	.750	T-2nd (Big Ten)	Fiesta Bowl Champs	4/4
2004	Ohio State	8	4	.667	4	4	.500	T-5th (Big Ten)	Alamo Bowl Champs	20/19
2015	Alabama	14	1	.933	7	1	.875	1st (SEC West)	CFP Semifinal (W) CFP National Champs (W)	1/1
2016	Georgia	8	5	.615	4	4	.500	T-2nd (SEC East)	Liberty Bowl Champs	-
2017	Georgia	13	2	.867	7	1	.875	1st (SEC East)	CFP Semifinal (W) CFP National Champ. Game (L)	2/2
2018	Georgia	11	3*	.786	7	1	.875	1st (SEC East)	Sugar Bowl*	7/7
Totals		101	29	.777	76	45	.623		10 bowl games (8-2)*	

** Did not coach Georgia in Sugar Bowl*

THE TUCKER FILE

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE:
- Graduate assistant at Michigan State (1997-98)
- Defensive backs at Miami-Ohio (1999)
- Defensive backs at LSU (2000)
- Defensive backs at Ohio State (2001-03)
- Co-defensive coordinator/defensive backs at Ohio State (2004)
- Defensive backs with Cleveland Browns (2005-07)
- Defensive coordinator with Cleveland Browns (2008)
- Defensive coordinator/secondary with Jacksonville Jaguars (2009)
- Defensive coordinator with Jacksonville Jaguars (2010-11)
- Interim head coach with Jacksonville Jaguars (2011)
- Assistant head coach/defensive coordinator with Jacksonville Jaguars (2012)
- Defensive coordinator with Chicago Bears (2013-14)
- Assistant head coach/defensive backs at Alabama (2015)
- Defensive coordinator/secondary at Georgia (2016-18)
- Head coach at Colorado (2019)

PERSONAL DATA: Born Jan. 4, 1972. Family: wife JoEllyn and two sons, Joseph and Christian.

CONNECT: Twitter: @Coach_MTucker; Facebook: Mel Tucker; Instagram: @Coach_MTucker

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in agricultural business management from Wisconsin in 1995.

HEAD COACHING RECORD: 5-7 (.417) in one season as a college head coach.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College: Three-year letterman as a defensive back at Wisconsin (1990-92, 1994).

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Coach: 2000 Peach, 2002 Outback, 2003 Fiesta/BCS National Championship, 2004 Fiesta, 2004 Alamo, 2015 Cotton/CFP Semifinal, 2016 CFP/National Championship, 2016 Liberty, 2018 Rose/CFP Semifinal, 2018 CFP/National Championship). Player: 1995 Hall of Fame Bowl.

NFL FIRST ROUNDERS: Tucker has coached eight NFL first-round draft picks along with recruiting four others. COACHED (8): CB Chris Gamble (Ohio State; No. 28 overall pick by Carolina, 2004 NFL Draft); LB A.J. Hawk (Ohio State; No. 6, Green Bay, 2006); LB Bobby Carpenter (Ohio State; No. 19, Dallas, 2006); CB Donte Whitner (Ohio State; No. 6, Buffalo, 2006); CB Marlon Humphrey (Alabama; No. 16, Baltimore, 2017); S Minkah Fitzpatrick (Alabama; No. 11, Miami, 2018); LB Roquan Smith (Georgia; No. 8, Chicago, 2018); CB DeAndre Baker (Georgia; No. 30, New York Giants, 2019) RECRUITED (4): WR Ted Ginn, Jr. (Ohio State; No. 9, Miami, 2007); WR Anthony Gonzalez (Ohio State; No. 32, Indianapolis, 2007); DE Vernon Gholston (Ohio State; No. 6, N.Y. Jets, 2008); CB/S Malcolm Jenkins (Ohio State; No. 14, New Orleans, 2009).

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BUICK

SPARTAN TRADITIONS

SPARTY

"The Spartan" statue, designed and produced by MSU assistant art professor Leonard D. Jungwirth, has a permanent home inside the atrium of the Spartan Stadium tower. The 9-foot-7 ceramic figure weighs approximately 6,600 pounds, including its base. In 2005, the sculpture was relocated to protect it from the elements.

"The Spartan" was dedicated on June 9, 1945, at the intersection of Red Cedar Road, Kalamazoo Street and Chestnut Road. Popularly known as "Sparty," the statue remains one of the favorite photo subjects of campus visitors.

In 2005, an exact replica of the original terra cotta sculpture - now cast in bronze - took up residency on the plaza located at the north end of Demonstration Hall Field. The molds for the bronze statue were made from the original sculpture. The new statue was cast in bronze at the Artworks Foundry in Berkeley, California.

As part of MSU's sesquicentennial celebration, the bronze "Sparty" was dedicated on Oct. 8, 2005. Donors contributed approximately $500,000 to pay for all work related to the new sculpture, including the plaza.

THE NICKNAME - SPARTANS

In 1926, Michigan State's first southern baseball training tour provided the setting for the birth of the "Spartan" nickname.

It all came about when a Lansing sportswriter imposed the silent treatment on a contest-winning nickname and substituted his own choice, the name that has lasted through the years.

In 1925, Michigan State College replaced the name Michigan Agricultural College. The college sponsored a contest to select a nickname to replace "Aggies" and picked "The Michigan Staters."

George S. Alderton, then sports editor of the Lansing State Journal, decided the name was too cumbersome for newspaper writing and vowed to find a better one. Alderton contacted Jim Hasselman of Information Services to see

if entries still remained from the contest. When informed that they still existed, Alderton ran across the entry name of "Spartans" and then decided that was the choice. Unfortunately, Alderton forgot to write down who submitted that particular entry, so that part of the story remains a mystery.

Rewriting game accounts supplied by Perry Fremont, a catcher on the squad, Alderton first used the name sparingly and then ventured into the headlines with it. (Incidentally, after two days of spelling the name incorrectly with an "o", Mr. Alderton changed it to Spartan on a tip from a close friend.) Dale Stafford, a sports writer for the Lansing Capitol News, a rival of the State Journal, picked up the name for his paper after a couple of days. Alderton called Stafford and suggested that he might want to join the Spartan parade and he did.

As Mr. Alderton explains: "No student, alumnus or college official had called up the editor to complain about our audacity in giving the old school a new name, so we ventured into headlines with it. Happily for the experiment, the name took. It began appearing in other newspapers and when the student publication used it, that clinched it."

SPARTY MASCOT

Michigan State's beloved Sparty has won three national championships at the Universal Cheer Association's mascot competition at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

In January 2004, Sparty became the first Big Ten mascot to claim the UCA national title, and in 2005, he defended his national championship, beating Goldy the Gopher and Bucky the Badger in the finals. After finishing third in the 2006 competition, Sparty reclaimed the national championship in 2007.

In March 2008, Sparty was selected to appear on the cover of NCAA Football 09 for the Nintendo Wii. EA Sports conducted an on-line poll, asking college football fans to vote and determine which college mascot would have the honor of being depicted on the game's cover. Fans went online and cast more than 700,000 votes and Sparty won the tight contest race, beating out mascots from Central Florida, Washington State, Auburn, LSU, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa State, Alabama and Penn State.

Made of hi-tech materials, including a vinyl chest plate and fiberglass molds like the ones used for making Muppets, the seven-foot costume weighs a total of 40 pounds, allowing enough flexibility for playful gestures and animation. Sparty is a far cry from the many paper-mache heads that have popped up since the 1950's, mostly from fraternity efforts. The first official paper-mache Sparty head debuted in 1955 courtesy of Theta XI.

In 1984, Sigma Phi Epsilon introduced the first "gruff" Sparty head sporting the unshaven look that still adorns many sweatshirts and jackets.

By contrast, the current Sparty costume is a state-of-the art, full-bodied uniform that costs $15,000.

Today, Sparty aspirants must be between 5-10 and 6-2 in height. Candidates who fit the physical needs are chosen after a hands-on process that includes tryouts and interviews.

The Sparty Mascot Program is run and fully funded by the MSU Alumni Association, future alumni programming. All event fees and donations to the program are used for costume maintenance and leadership development opportunities.

For more information for those interested in having Sparty at their event, please visit alumni.msu.edu/traditions/sparty, or send an email to spartyreq@msu.edu or contact the office by phone at 517-432-0014. Those who wish to donate to the Sparty mascot fund can contact University Development at 517-355-8257.

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ASSISTANT COACHES

JAY JOHNSON

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR/QUARTERBACKS COACH

Jay Johnson is in his first season as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Michigan State. Johnson, 50, is a veteran coach and administrator of 25 seasons, including 10 as an offensive coordinator at four FBS schools (Colorado, Minnesota, Louisiana, Southern Mississippi) in addition to coaching quarterbacks, running backs and tight ends as a position coach. Johnson arrives to East Lansing after serving as the offensive coordinator at Colorado for one season under Mel Tucker. Last season, Johnson's offense helped feature wide receiver Laviska Shenault, who was a second-round 2020 NFL Draft selection by Jacksonville. Johnson spent two seasons as an offensive analyst at Georgia (2017-18) and was instrumental to the Bulldogs' success, as he assisted in all off-field phases of game planning and recruiting on Kirby Smart's staff. During Johnson's time at UGA, the Bulldogs posted a 24-4 record, including the 2017 SEC Championship and an appearance in the College Football Playoff. Johnson has previous coaching experience in the Big Ten at Minnesota, where he was the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for the Gophers in 2016 under head coach Tracy Claeys. Minnesota's offense averaged nearly 30 points a game (29.3 ppg), the fourth-highest scoring average in the Big Ten, en route to a 9-4 record that included a win over Washington State in the Holiday Bowl. As Louisiana's (former UL-Lafayette) offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for five seasons (2011-15), the Ragin' Cajuns consistently ranked near the top of the Sun Belt offensive leaders as the program posted four consecutive winning seasons and four straight wins in the New Orleans Bowl. Johnson has also held full-time positions at Central Michigan, Louisville, Southern Mississippi, Kansas, Truman State and Augsburg College.

THE JOHNSON FILE

FAMILY: Wife, Lori, and son, Cole.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: First. Joined staff on Feb. 20, 2020, from Colorado.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Assistant coach at Hickman High School (Columbia, Mo.) (1993); Graduate assistant on offense at Missouri (spring only, 1994); Offensive coordinator/recruiting coordinator at Augsburg (Minn.) College (1994); Offensive coordinator at Truman State (1995-96); Graduate assistant on offense at Kansas (1997-98); Quarterbacks coach at Kansas (1999-2000); Running backs coach at Kansas (2001); Running backs coach at Southern Mississippi (2003); Tight ends coach at Southern Mississippi (2004); Offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Southern Mississippi (2005-07); Quality control/offense at Louisville (2008); Tight ends coach at Louisville (2009); Quarterbacks coach at Central Michigan (2010); Offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Louisiana (2011-15); Offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Minnesota (2016); Quality control/offense at Georgia (2017-18); Offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Colorado (2019)

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in science (minor in coaching) from Northern Iowa in 1992; Master's degree in exercise sciences with an emphasis in exercise physiology from Missouri.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Four-year letterwinner as a quarterback at Northern Iowa (1989-92).

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Player – Three Division I-AA playoff appearances (1990-92). Coach – 2003 Liberty Bowl, 2004 New Orleans Bowl, 2005 New Orleans Bowl, 2006 GMAC Bowl, 2007 PapaJohns.com Bowl, 2011 New Orleans Bowl, 2012 New Orleans Bowl, 2013 New Orleans Bowl, 2014 New Orleans Bowl, 2016 Holiday Bowl, 2017 Rose/CFP Semifinal, 2017 CFP National Championship.

SCOTTIE HAZELTON

SECCHIA FAMILY DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR

A 24-year coaching veteran with stints at all levels of collegiate football and the NFL, Scottie Hazelton enters his first season as the Secchia Family Defensive Coordinator in 2020 after spending one season as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Kansas State in 2019. Hazelton made an immediate impact in his only season at Kansas State in 2019, as the Wildcats ranked among the best defensive teams in the Big 12. KSU was second in the conference in scoring defense, allowing just 21.4 points per game, the program's best mark since 2003. Part of the reason for K-State's success on defense was the dramatic improvement on third downs; under Hazelton, the Wildcats ranked first in the Big 12 and second in the FBS in third-down defense (.280), compared to eighth in the league and 110th in the FBS the season prior (.448). Overall, the Wildcats ranked fourth in the Big 12 in total defense (368.4 ypg), the best for the program since 2013. Hazelton came to Manhattan after a successful two-year run as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Wyoming (2017-18). The Cowboys ranked in the top 25 nationally both seasons in total defense and top 30 nationally in scoring defense. Hazelton got back into the college game at Wyoming after spending three seasons (2014-16) in the NFL with the Jacksonville Jaguars as the assistant linebackers coach. While in Jacksonville, he was reunited with head coach Gus Bradley, who was Hazelton's position coach at Fort Lewis College. Before making the jump to the NFL, Hazelton coached for five seasons at North Dakota State from 2007-11. He was the defensive line coach from 2007 to 2009 before taking over as defensive coordinator and coaching the linebackers in 2010 and 2011. In 2011, the Bison defense led the nation in scoring defense (12.73 points per game) and was a big part of North Dakota State's first-ever FCS title, which began a current streak of eight national championships over a nine-year span. Hazelton moved from North Dakota State to his first Power 5 job as he was the linebackers coach at USC in 2012, a year that ended with a Sun Bowl berth. The next year in 2013, he served as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Nevada. Hazelton's coaching career began in 1996 at his alma mater, Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado.

THE HAZELTON FILE

FAMILY: Wife, Brooke; two daughters, Ava and Sophie; and two sons, Bode and Crew.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: First. Joined staff on Feb. 28, 2020, from Kansas State.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Defensive backs coach at Fort Lewis College (1996-99) (Served as interim defensive coordinator in 1998); Graduate assistant at North Dakota State (2000-01); Recruiting coordinator/defensive backs coach at St. Olaf (2002-03); Defensive coordinator/safeties coach at Missouri Southern State (2004-05); Linebackers/special teams coach at Michigan Tech (2006); Defensive line coach at North Dakota State (2007-09); Defensive coordinator/linebackers at North Dakota State (2010-11); Linebackers at USC (2012); Defensive coordinator/linebackers coach at Nevada (2013); Assistant linebackers coach with Jacksonville Jaguars (2014-16); Defensive coordinator/linebackers coach at Wyoming (2017-18); Defensive coordinator/linebackers coach at Kansas State (2019).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in exercise science from Fort Lewis College in 1997.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Three-year letterwinner as a linebacker at Fort Lewis College (1992-94).

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Coach – 2010 FCS Quarterfinals, 2011 FCS National Champions, 2012 Sun Bowl, 2017 Famous Idaho Potato Bowl, 2019 Liberty Bowl.

HARLON BARNETT

CORNERBACKS COACH

Former Spartan All-American Harlon Barnett returned to Michigan State in 2020 to coach the cornerbacks. Barnett is back in East Lansing after two seasons (2018-19) as the defensive coordinator at Florida State. He was MSU's associate head coach in 2017, his 11th season on the Spartan staff under Mark Dantonio, before departing for FSU. During Barnett's time in East Lansing from 2007-17, the Spartans were 100-45 with three Big Ten Championships (2010, 2013, 2015) and were selected for the College Football Playoff in 2015. He coached the defensive backs his entire 11 years under Dantonio; he was promoted to assistant head coach and co-defensive coordinator prior to Michigan State's victory in the 2015 Cotton Bowl Classic over Baylor, and was appointed the program's associate head coach in June 2017. Barnett mentored one of the top secondaries in the nation on his first coaching stint in East Lansing, as the Spartans ranked among the FBS Top 25 in pass efficiency defense five of his last seven seasons (No. 18 in 2011, No. 3 in 2012, No. 1 in 2013, No. 21 in 2014, No. 17 in 2017). The Spartans also finished ranked in the NCAA FBS Top 10 in pass defense in 2012 (ninth) and 2013 (third). From 2011-14, the Spartans were the only program to finish in the NCAA FBS Top 10 in both total defense and rushing defense. During his three seasons (2015-17) coordinating the Spartan defense with Mike Tressel, Michigan State ranked in the FBS Top 25 in both scoring defense and rushing defense in 2015 and 2017. Barnett coached 10 Spartan defensive backs that were selected in the NFL Draft, including two first-rounders (Darqueze Dennard, No. 24, Cincinnati Bengals, 2014; Trae Waynes, No. 11, Minnesota Vikings, 2015), and 14 were invited to the NFL Scouting Combine. Barnett has coached three All-Americans at MSU (Dennard, Waynes, Kurtis Drummond) and three Thorpe Award semifinalists (Dennard, Waynes, Otis Wiley). A unanimous All-American, Dennard became the first Spartan to win the Thorpe Award, given to the nation's best defensive back, in 2013. Barnett's players earned All-Big Ten honors 27 times as secondary coach at MSU, including eight different first-team players; he also coached two Big Ten Defensive Backs of the Year (Dennard in 2013, Drummond in 2014).

THE BARNETT FILE

FAMILY: Wife, Tammy, and two children: Todd and Tori.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: 12th overall. First since rejoining staff on Feb. 20, 2020, from Florida State.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Graduate assistant coach at LSU (2003); Secondary coach at Cincinnati (2004-06); Secondary coach at Michigan State (2007-14); Assistant head coach/co-defensive coordinator/secondary coach at Michigan State (2015-16); Associate head coach/co-defensive coordinator/secondary coach at Michigan State (2017); Defensive coordinator at Florida State (2018-19).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in communication from Michigan State in 1990.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Four-year letterwinner as a defensive back at Michigan State (1986-89) and named captain as a senior. Professional – Spent seven seasons in the National Football League, including stints with the Cleveland Browns (1990-92), New England Patriots (1993-94) and Minnesota Vikings (1995-96).

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Player – 1988 Rose Bowl, 1989 Gator Bowl, 1989 Aloha Bowl, 1994 NFL Playoffs, 1996 NFL Playoffs. Coach – 2004 Sugar Bowl, 2004 Fort Worth Bowl, 2007 Champs Sports Bowl, 2009 Capital One Bowl, 2010 Valero Alamo Bowl, 2011 Capital One Bowl, 2012 Outback Bowl, 2012 Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl, 2014 Rose Bowl, 2015 Cotton Bowl, 2015 College Football Playoff (Cotton Bowl), 2017 Holiday Bowl, 2019 Sun Bowl.

ASSISTANT COACHES

RON BURTON
DEFENSIVE LINE COACH

Ron Burton, a 28-year coaching veteran who also played four seasons in the NFL, is in his eighth season on the defensive staff at Michigan State. He has coached in a bowl game 12 of the past 13 seasons, including six bowls with the Spartans (2014 Rose, 2015 Cotton, 2015 College Football Playoff Semifinal, 2017 Holiday, 2018 Redbox, 2019 Pinstripe). Burton is back coaching the entire defensive line in 2020 under head coach Mel Tucker after previously coaching the defensive tackles for the past three seasons (2017-19). He spent his first four seasons in East Lansing (2013-16) coaching the defensive line. Burton is the only coach to win the FootballScoop National Defensive Line Coach of the Year Award twice, an honor he won for the second time in 2018 after MSU finished with the top-ranked rushing defense in the country. He also won the award during his first season in East Lansing in 2013 when the Spartans claimed the Big Ten Championship, won the Rose Bowl, and finished No. 2 in the FBS in total defense and rushing defense. The defensive line is one of the main reasons why Michigan State continues to rank among the national leaders in rushing defense. Since Burton's first year in 2013, the Spartans have led the Big Ten in rushing defense four times (2013, 2014, 2017, 2018) and have ranked in the NCAA FBS Top 25 six of his seven seasons, including twice at No. 1 (2014, 2018). There is no question Burton has made a significant impact on the defensive line during his tenure in East Lansing. During his seven seasons on the Michigan State staff, Spartan defensive linemen have earned All-Big Ten recognition 15 times, including three-time first-team selection Shilique Calhoun, who became the first defensive end in program history to be named first-team all-conference three times. Four Spartan defensive linemen that Burton has coached at MSU have played in the NFL (Calhoun, Joel Heath, Marcus Rush and Lawrence Thomas). Two Spartans have been drafted under Burton's watch (Calhoun in third round of the 2016 NFL Draft by the Raiders, Malik McDowell in the second round of the 2017 NFL Draft by the Seahawks) and five have been invited to the NFL Combine (Calhoun, Heath, McDowell, Thomas, Raequan Williams).

THE BURTON FILE

FAMILY: Wife Andrea and four children: Ronald, Ryan, Roya and Reid.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: Eighth. Joined staff on Feb. 8, 2013, from Air Force.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: College – Graduate assistant coach at North Carolina (1992-93); Defensive backs at Morehead State (1994); Linebackers at Eastern Michigan (1995-96); Linebackers at Indiana (1997-2001); Defensive line at Grand Valley State (2002); Defensive line at Air Force (2003-12).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in industrial relations from North Carolina in 1987.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Four-year letterman as a defensive lineman at North Carolina (1982-86). Professional – Spent four seasons in the National Football League, including stints with the Dallas Cowboys (1987-89), Phoenix Cardinals (1989) and Los Angeles Raiders (1990).

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Player – 1982 Sun Bowl, 1983 Peach Bowl, 1986 Aloha Bowl; Coach – 1993 Peach Bowl, 1993 Gator Bowl, 2002 NCAA Division II Playoffs, 2007 Armed Forces Bowl, 2008 Armed Forces Bowl, 2009 Armed Forces Bowl, 2010 Independence Bowl, 2011 Military Bowl, 2012 Armed Forces Bowl, 2014 Rose Bowl, 2015 Cotton Bowl, 2015 College Football Playoff (Cotton Bowl), 2017 Holiday Bowl, 2018 Redbox Bowl, 2019 Pinstripe Bowl.

ROSS ELS
LINEBACKERS COACH/SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR

Ross Els is in his first season at Michigan State as the special teams coordinator and linebackers coach. A 30-year coaching veteran, Els spent the last three seasons (2017-19) as the inside linebackers coach at Colorado; he added duties of special teams coordinator under Tucker in 2019. Under Ross Els' direction at CU, junior linebacker Nate Landman earned first-team All-Pac 12 honors after leading the Buffaloes and ranking fourth in the conference and 20th in the FBS with 104 total tackles. Els, 53, has previous experience in the Big Ten, serving as the defensive coordinator at Purdue in 2016 and four seasons at Nebraska under Coach Bo Pelini from 2011-14. Els coached the linebackers during his four seasons in Lincoln and also spent three years as the special teams and recruiting coordinator. During his time at Nebraska, Els helped develop Lavonte David, the 2011 Big Ten Linebacker of the Year and a Butkus Award finalist. Nebraska was 37-16 in his four years on staff, including a trip to the 2012 Big Ten Championship Game and four bowl appearances: Capital One (2012 and 2013), Gator (2014) and Holiday (2014). Prior to Nebraska, Els was the linebackers coach for six seasons (2005-10) at Ohio, working under Frank Solich. Els coached in the FBS for the first time when he spent four years at New Mexico State, first tutoring the safeties and special teams for the 2001 and 2002 seasons, and then the linebackers along with a promotion to defensive coordinator in 2003 and 2004. Els was the head coach at Hastings (Neb.) College from 1997-2000, where he was the quarterbacks coach in 1995 and the defensive coordinator and secondary coach in 1996. As Hastings' head coach, Els compiled a 32-9 record, including NAIA playoff appearances in 1998 and 1999.

THE ELS FILE

FAMILY: Wife, Jane; two daughters, Julie and Taylor; and a son, Bo.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: First. Joined staff on Feb. 24, 2020, from Colorado.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Graduate assistant (defense) at Northern Iowa (1989); Secondary coach at Nebraska-Omaha (1990-93); Secondary coach at Northern Iowa (1994); Quarterbacks coach at Hastings (Neb.) College (1995); Defensive coordinator/secondary coach at Hastings College (1996); Head coach at Hastings College (1997-2000); Safeties/special teams coach at New Mexico State (2001-02); Defensive coordinator/linebackers coach at New Mexico State (2003-04); Linebackers coach at Ohio (2005-06); Linebackers coach and special teams coordinator at Ohio (2007-09); Assistant head coach/linebackers coach/special teams coordinator at Ohio (2010); Linebackers coach at Nebraska (2011); Linebackers coach/special teams coordinator/recruiting coordinator at Nebraska (2012-14); Linebackers coach at Lincoln Southwest High School (2015); Defensive coordinator/safeties coach at Purdue (2016); Inside linebackers/special teams coach at Colorado (2017-19).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in management information systems from Nebraska-Omaha in 1988; Master's degree in physical education from Northern Iowa in 1990.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Four-year letterwinner as a safety at Nebraska-Omaha.

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Coach – 2006 GMAC Bowl, 2009 Little Caesars Bowl, 2010 New Orleans Bowl, 2012 Capital One Bowl, 2013 Capital One Bowl, 2014 Gator Bowl, 2014 Holiday Bowl.

TED GILMORE
TIGHT ENDS COACH

A 25-year coaching veteran with experience at the FBS and NFL ranks, Ted Gilmore is in his first season as the tight ends coach. Gilmore has developed numerous NFL players, draft picks and All-Americans during his coaching career. He was named the 2011 FootballScoop Wide Receivers Coach of the Year after mentoring consensus All-American Robert Woods and 2011 Freshman All-American Marqise Lee at USC. Gilmore has also coached on the game's biggest stages with 13 trips to bowl games, including the Rose Bowl, Orange Bowl and multiple trips to the Cotton and Holiday Bowls. Gilmore, 52, arrives in East Lansing after spending the previous five seasons (2015-19) as the wide receivers coach at Wisconsin; he was also the offensive pass game coordinator his last three years in Madison. The Badgers posted a 52-16 record during his five seasons at UW, including three Big Ten West Division titles, a trip to the Rose Bowl, and wins in the Cotton, Orange and Pinstripe Bowls. Under Gilmore's tutelage, Wisconsin's Quintez Cephus became of the one best receivers in the Big Ten, earning second-team all-conference honors from Pro Football Focus in 2019, and was a fifth-round pick in the 2020 NFL Draft by the Detroit Lions. Gilmore re-entered the college coaching ranks with Wisconsin in 2015 after spending three seasons as the wide receivers coach for the Oakland Raiders (2012-14). Before moving to the NFL, Gilmore spent 18 years at the collegiate level. He coached at USC in 2011 and was named FootballScoop Wide Receivers Coach of the Year for helping to mold one of the top receiving corps in the country, led by 2011 Biletnikoff Award finalist and consensus All-American Robert Woods and 2011 Freshman All-American Marqise Lee. Both went on to be selected in the second round of the NFL draft. Prior to USC, Gilmore spent six seasons as the wide receivers coach at Nebraska (2005-10), adding the title of assistant head coach in his final three seasons while also serving as the Huskers' recruiting coordinator. Gilmore also coached wide receivers at Colorado (2003-04), Purdue (2001-02) and Houston (2000). He was the tight ends coach at Kansas in 1999 and coached wide receivers at his alma mater, Wyoming, the previous two seasons.

THE GILMORE FILE

FAMILY: Wife, Jennifer; daughter, Taylor; son, T.J.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: First. Joined staff on Feb. 21, 2020, from Wisconsin.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Graduate assistant at Wyoming (1994-96); Wide receivers coach at Wyoming (1997-98); Tight ends coach at Kansas (1999); Wide receivers coach at Houston (2000); Wide receivers coach at Purdue (2001-02); Wide receivers coach at Colorado (2003-04); Wide receivers coach at Nebraska (2005-07); Assistant head coach/wide receivers coach/recruiting coordinator at Nebraska (2008-10); Wide receivers coach at USC (2011); Wide receivers coach with Oakland Raiders (2012-14); Wide receivers coach at Wisconsin (2015-16); Offensive pass game coordinator/wide receivers coach at Wisconsin (2017-19).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in sociology from Wyoming in 1991.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Two-year letterwinner as a wide receiver at Wyoming from 1988-89. Played two seasons at Butler Community College in 1986-87.

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Coach – 2001 Sun Bowl, 2002 Sun Bowl, 2004 Houston Bowl, 2005 Alamo Bowl, 2007 Cotton Bowl, 2009 Gator Bowl, 2009 Holiday Bowl, 2010 Holiday Bowl, 2015 Holiday Bowl, 2017 Cotton Bowl, 2018 Orange Bowl, 2018 Pinstripe Bowl, 2020 Rose Bowl.

ASSISTANT COACHES

COURTNEY HAWKINS
WIDE RECEIVERS COACH

Former Spartan great Courtney Hawkins enters his first season on the staff as a wide receivers coach. Hawkins, who played nine seasons in the NFL, came to Michigan State after serving as the head football coach and athletic director at his alma mater, Beecher High School, in Flint, Michigan, from 2006 to 2020. A four-year letterwinner at Michigan State (1988-91) under Coach George Perles, Hawkins was a two-time first-team All-Big Ten honoree at wide receiver. He was a member of the 1990 Big Ten Championship team and earned the Governor of Michigan Award in 1991, presented annually since 1931 to the Spartan player who is voted the most valuable by his teammates. In 1989, Hawkins broke the MSU single-season record for receiving yards with 1,080, a mark that is still No. 8 on Michigan State's single-season receiving yards list. Hawkins remains ranked among Michigan State's career leaders in kick return yards (No. 5 with 1,571), receiving yards (No. 6 with 2,210), receptions (No. 7 with 138), all-purpose yards (No. 8 with 4,125) and TD receptions (tied for No. 16 with 12). Hawkins was selected in the second round (44th overall) of the 1992 NFL Draft by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He spent nine seasons in the NFL, playing for Tampa Bay from 1992-1996, before joining the Pittsburgh Steelers from 1997 to 2000. For his NFL career, Hawkins snared 366 passes for 4,573 yards and 18 TDs. He caught at least 40 passes in a season five times in his career, including a career-high 66 catches for 751 yards in 1998. During his second season with the Buccaneers in 1993, Hawkins had 62 receptions for a career-best 933 yards and five TDs. A native of Flint, Michigan, Hawkins previously served as the head football coach and athletic director at his alma mater, Beecher High School, beginning in 2006 up until his hiring at MSU in February 2020. He was named the regional Athletic Director of the Year in 2018 by the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. During his time as the head football coach for 14 seasons, Beecher reached the state playoffs 12 times and won three conference championships, three division championships and one regional championship. Under Hawkins' leadership as AD, Beecher won five Class C boys basketball state championships. Hawkins is a member of both the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame and the Greater Flint African-American Sports Hall of Fame. He received the Donald Riegle Community Service Award in 2019 for his service to the city of Flint.

THE HAWKINS FILE

FAMILY: Wife, Candace, and three daughters: Ciya, Comari and Cayla.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: First. Joined staff on Feb. 19, 2020, from Flint Beecher High School.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Head football coach/athletic director at Flint Beecher High School from 2006-20.

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Michigan State.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Four-year letterwinner as a wide receiver at Michigan State (1988-91). Professional – Spent nine seasons in the National Football League, including stints with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1992-96) and Pittsburgh Steelers (1997-2000).

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Player – 1989 Gator Bowl, 1989 Aloha Bowl, 1990 John Hancock Bowl. Professional – 1998 AFC Playoffs, including AFC Championship Game, with Steelers.

CHRIS KAPILOVIC
OFFENSIVE LINE COACH/RUN GAME COORDINATOR

Chris Kapilovic enters his first season as the offensive line coach and run game coordinator at Michigan State. Kapilovic has nearly 30 years of coaching experience, including roles as an offensive coordinator and/or run game coordinator at Southern Mississippi (2008-11), North Carolina (2012-18) and Colorado (2019). He has coached multiple NFL players, first-round draft picks and record-setting offenses during his career. Kapilovic, 51, joined Tucker's staff in Colorado for the 2019 season as the offensive line coach and run game coordinator. Prior to Colorado, Kapilovic coached the offensive line for seven seasons at North Carolina (2012-18) for head coach Larry Fedora. Kapilovic served as the run game coordinator for the Tar Heels his first two seasons (2012-13), was promoted to co-offensive coordinator for the next two years (2014-15), and was the associate head coach and offensive coordinator his final three seasons (2016-18). In his seven seasons at UNC, Kapilovic was part of an offensive unit that established numerous school records, including points per game (40.6 ppg in 2012, 40.7 in 2015) and total offense (485.6 ypg in 2012, 486.9 ypg in 2015). UNC also set school records for most passing yards for five straight years (2012-16), peaking at 293.2 yards per game in 2016. In 2016, Kapilovic's offense, led by quarterback Mitch Trubisky, set the school passing yards mark for the fifth season in a row, as UNC won eight games and earned a berth in the Sun Bowl against Stanford. Trubisky was the No. 2 overall pick in the 2017 NFL Draft by the Chicago Bears; he was one of 10 Tar Heels to either be drafted or signed by an NFL team under Kapilovic. Kapilovic was previously hired by Fedora in 2008, when he took the head coaching job at Southern Mississippi. He was at USM for four seasons (2008-11), all four as the offensive line coach with additional duties as the run game coordinator his last two years there before moving on to North Carolina and joining Fedora's staff in Chapel Hill.

THE KAPILOVIC FILE

FAMILY: Wife, Fiona, and two sons, Carsen and Colin.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: First. Joined staff on Feb. 17, 2020, from Colorado.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Offensive line coach at Deer Valley (Ariz.) High School (1992-97); Offensive line coach at Phoenix College (1998); Graduate assistant at Kansas (1999-2000); Offensive line coach at Alabama State (2001-02); Offensive coordinator/offensive line coach at Alabama State (2003-05); Offensive line coach/run game coordinator at Missouri State (2006-07); Offensive line coach at Southern Mississippi (2008-09); Offensive line coach/run game coordinator at Southern Mississippi (2010-11); Offensive line coach/run game coordinator at North Carolina (2012-13); Co-offensive coordinator/offensive line at North Carolina (2014-15); Offensive coordinator/offensive line at North Carolina (2016-18); Offensive line coach/run game coordinator at Colorado (2019).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in education in 1990 from Missouri State.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Two-year letterwinner as an offensive tackle at Missouri State University from 1989-90. Played two seasons at Scottsdale Community College prior to attending Missouri State.

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Player – 1989-90 Division I-AA Playoffs. Coach – 2008 New Orleans Bowl, 2009 New Orleans Bowl, 2010 Beef O'Brady's Bowl, 2011 Hawai'i Bowl, 2013 Belk Bowl, 2014 Quick Lane Bowl, 2015 Russell Athletic Bowl, 2016 Sun Bowl.

WILLIAM PEAGLER
RUNNING BACKS COACH

William Peagler, 34, enters his first season as the Michigan State running backs coach. He was the director of quality control for the offense in 2019 at Colorado and has been coaching in college for the past 10 seasons. This will be the fifth time he has been on the same staff with offensive coordinator Jay Johnson (Michigan State, Colorado, Georgia, Minnesota, Louisiana). Peagler spent one season under head coach Mel Tucker at Colorado in 2019 and followed Tucker to East Lansing in 2020. Peagler came to Colorado from Louisiana (formerly UL-Lafayette), where he spent the 2018 season as the Ragin' Cajuns' director of player personnel and quality control coordinator. UL won the Sun Belt West Division title and earned a berth into the AutoNation Cure Bowl. In addition, Peagler helped Louisiana recruit the No. 1 class in the Sun Belt Conference. During Georgia's run to the College Football Playoff National Championship in 2017, Peagler served as a graduate assistant for the Bulldogs, working with the offensive line. UGA won a school-record 13 games, the SEC Championship, and the Rose Bowl over Oklahoma in the CFP Semifinal during Peagler's year in Athens. He was also on the staff that signed the nation's consensus top recruiting class for 2018. Peagler worked with NFL first-rounder Isaiah Wynn, who earned first-team All-SEC honors as an offensive tackle in 2017. Peagler joined the Minnesota staff in January 2016 as an assistant in quality control for the offense, particularly working with the offensive line. During the 2016 season, Minnesota defeated Washington State in the Holiday Bowl and won nine games under coach Tracy Claeys. In 2015, Peagler was the offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Olive Branch High School in Mississippi. He was at Coffeyville Community College in 2014, where he was the run game coordinator with additional duties as the school's recruiting coordinator. Previously, he had spent the 2011-13 seasons at Louisiana (formerly UL-Lafayette), where he first worked under Johnson. Peagler's first taste of coaching came as the tight ends coach at Valdosta State for the 2010 season.

THE PEAGLER FILE

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: First. Joined staff on Feb. 24, 2020, from Colorado.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: Tight ends coach at Valdosta State (2010); Offensive quality control assistant at Louisiana (2011); Offensive graduate assistant at Louisiana (2012-13); Run game coordinator/recruiting coordinator at Coffeyville Community College (2014); Offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Olive Branch (Miss.) High School (2015); Offensive quality control assistant at Minnesota (2016); Graduate assistant (offensive line) at Georgia (2017); Director of player personnel and quality control coordinator at Louisiana (2018); Director of quality control (offense) at Colorado (2019).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in sport management from Clemson in 2010.

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Coach – 2011 New Orleans Bowl, 2012 New Orleans Bowl, 2013 New Orleans Bowl, 2016 Holiday Bowl, 2017 Rose/CFP Semifinal, 2017 CFP National Championship, 2018 AutoNation Cure Bowl.

STAFF

MIKE TRESSEL

SAFETIES COACH

Mike Tressel, who is in his 14th year on the defensive staff at Michigan State, enters his first year as the safeties coach. Tressel served as the program's linebackers coach from 2007-19 and also was the special teams coordinator his first eight seasons at MSU. In addition, he was the co-defensive coordinator for three seasons (2015-17) and the sole defensive coordinator for two seasons (2018-19), in addition to being the assistant head coach in 2019. Tressel and Tucker worked previously together at Ohio State in 2002-03. Tressel was a defensive graduate assistant while Tucker was the defensive backs coach for Jim Tressel. The two were on the same defensive staff at OSU under coordinator Mark Dantonio that won the 2002 National Championship. Tressel has helped construct one of the best defenses in the nation at Michigan State, year in and year out. During his tenure at MSU, the Spartans have ranked in the FBS Top 10 in total defense and rushing defense on six occasions (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018). Four of those times, Michigan State also ranked among the nation's top 10 in scoring defense (2011, 2012, 2013, 2018). Michigan State has led the Big Ten in rushing defense six times since 2007, including No. 1 in the FBS in 2014 and 2018. The consistent play of the Spartan linebackers under Tressel is one of the main reasons why Michigan State has been so successful on defense during his tenure. Under the guidance of Tressel, Spartan linebackers earned All-Big Ten honors 22 times and All-America accolades on four occasions (Greg Jones: 2009-10; Denicos Allen: 2013; Max Bullough: 2013). Eight Spartan linebackers participated in postseason all-star games under Tressel and five have been invited to the NFL Combine. In addition, MSU's last four starting middle linebackers who have graduated (Jones, Max Bullough, Taiwan Jones, Riley Bullough) have all played in the NFL, while Joe Bachie signed a rookie free agent deal with the New Orleans Saints for the 2020 season. Stopping the run has been the main theme on defense, as the Spartans have finished in the Top 20 of the FBS in rushing defense eight of the past nine seasons, checking in at No. 1 in 2018 (77.9 ypg.). In Tressel's five seasons (2015-19) serving in the coordinator role, Michigan State ranked in the FBS Top 25 in scoring defense and rushing defense three times (2015, 2017, 2018).

THE TRESSEL FILE

FAMILY: Wife Megan and two children: Logan and Quincy.

YEARS AT MICHIGAN STATE: 14th. Joined staff on Dec. 1, 2006, from Cincinnati.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE: College – Graduate assistant coach at South Dakota (1996-97); Offensive line coach (1998-2000) and offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach (2001) at Wartburg (Iowa) College; Graduate assistant linebackers coach at Ohio State (2002-03); Linebackers and special teams coach at Cincinnati (2004-06).

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in mathematics from Cornell (Iowa) College in 1996; Master's degree in sports administration at South Dakota in 1998.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: College – Four-year starter in the secondary at Cornell (Iowa) College (1992-95).

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE: Coach – 1999 NCAA Division III Playoffs, 2003 Fiesta Bowl, 2004 Fiesta Bowl, 2004 Fort Worth Bowl, 2007 Champs Sports Bowl, 2009 Capital One Bowl, 2010 Alamo Bowl, 2011 Capital One Bowl, 2012 Outback Bowl, 2012 Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl, 2014 Rose Bowl, 2015 Cotton Bowl, 2015 College Football Playoff (Cotton Bowl), 2017 Holiday Bowl, 2018 Redbox Bowl, 2019 Pinstripe Bowl.

JASON NOVAK

HEAD STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH - FOOTBALL

Jason Novak enters his first year as the head coach of strength and conditioning for the football program in 2020. Novak has extensive experience in the field, including serving as the head of physical conditioning at IMG Academy the past year, four years as the director of strength and conditioning at Central Michigan, and 11 years as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for the Tennessee Titans. He joined IMG Academy's athletic and personal development team as the head of physical conditioning in June 2019. During his time as the director of strength and conditioning at Central Michigan from 2015-19, Novak oversaw the year-round training for more than 450 student-athletes. Before arriving in Mount Pleasant, Novak spent 11 years (2004-15) as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for the Tennessee Titans in the NFL. Prior to joining the Titans, Novak served at the director of strength and conditioning at Yale where he handled the design and implementation of strength and conditioning programs for football, hockey, basketball, lacrosse, field hockey and baseball in 2003-04. He served in a similar capacity at Alabama State from 2000-03, and worked as a graduate assistant/strength coach at both Baylor and Stephen F. Austin. Novak earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from Stephen F. Austin in 1998 and his master's degree from Baylor in sport management in 2000. A native of Houston, Texas, Novak and his wife, Michelle, have three children: Drew, Avery and Gray.

GEOFF MARTZEN

CHIEF OF STAFF

Geoff Martzen enters his first year as the chief of staff for the football program at Michigan State. He arrived in East Lansing following one year as the director of player personnel under Mel Tucker at Colorado in 2019. Martzen heads all of the Spartans' recruiting efforts and also supervises the creative department. He also plays a key role in the day-to-day operations of the football program. Martzen, 31, joined the CU staff from UCLA, where he worked as the Bruins' director of player personnel for the 2018 season, having been hired by Chip Kelly in January of that year. He previously held the same position at Colorado State for the 2015 through 2017 seasons. Martzen joined the CSU staff under its new head coach, Mike Bobo, ahead of the 2015 season. At CSU, he helped organize the Rams' recruiting department, coordinating several aspects of the year-round student-athlete recruitment process. Additionally, he served as the liaison between CSU and NFL scouts for Pro Day events, and assisted with camps, clinics and other football-related activities. His first director of player personnel position came at BYU, which hired him 2013. In Provo for two years, he also served as the on-campus recruiting coordinator in addition to other responsibilities including identifying prospects, planning recruiting events, maintaining communication with recruits via social media and providing recruiting aids for coaches. Prior to heading to BYU, Martzen was a personnel specialist, assisting in coordinating the recruitment of high school and junior college recruits, at both Alabama in 2012 and Boise State in 2013. In working under Nick Saban at Alabama and Chris Peterson at Boise State, he helped in the coordination of two top recruiting classes for two of the nation's winningest head coaches. Before entering the collegiate ranks, he was a high school football coach in Fresno, California, at Sunnyside and Reedley High Schools. Martzen earned his bachelor's degree in kinesiology from Fresno State in 2011, and started working toward a master's degree at Alabama in sports and fitness administration in 2012 and at Boise State in kinesiology and exercise science in 2013.

SUPPORT STAFF

CODY COX

DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL OPERATIONS

Cody Cox is entering his fourth season on the full-time Spartan football staff, his first as Director of Football Operations. Cox oversees and coordinates all of the day-to-day operations and scheduling of the football program. In his previous roles as the Director of Executive Football Operations (2019) and the Assistant Director of Football Operations and Camp Coordinator (2017-18), Cox helped coordinate the day-to-day operations of the program. Those responsibilities included planning, organizing and coordinating the annual football calendar, preseason camp, home and away team travel, training table, player guest tickets and all team related events and functions. Cox also helped organize and coordinate all day-to-day football-related activities for former Spartan head coach Mark Dantonio and served as the football office's liaison to the athletic communications staff.

SCOTT ALIGO

DIRECTOR OF PLAYER PERSONNEL

Scott Aligo enters his firt year as the director of player personnel at Michigan State. Aligo arrived in East Lansing after spending one season as the director of player personnel at Akron in 2019. He previously held the same role at Chattanooga (2017-18) and John Carroll (2016). Before entering the college ranks, Aligo was in the NFL for more than seven years, serving as a player personnel assistant for the Kansas City Chiefs (2005-09) and a personnel associate with the Cleveland Browns (2014-15). In addition to the NFL, Aligo has coached at nearly every level of college football. He served as a defensive ends coach in Northern Colorado (2014), a defensive graduate assistant at Texas A&M (2012-14), a defensive quality control assistant at Oklahoma State (2011), and a defensive backs coach at Washburn (2010).

DARIEN HARRIS

DIRECTOR OF PLAYER ENGAGEMENT

Darien Harris, a former Spartan captain on the 2015 Big Ten Championship team that reached the College Football Playoff, enters his first year as Michigan State's Director of Player Engagement. Harris has provided an instant impact in his new role, strengthening relationships between former Spartan players and the new coaching staff. He also serves as a mentor and role model for the current Spartan roster. A native of Silver Spring, Maryland, Harris was a four-year letterwinner for the Spartans from 2011-15, starting two seasons at Star (weakside) linebacker. He was voted a co-captain by his teammates in 2015 and was a part of the winningest senior class at MSU with 43 victories. During his four-year Spartan career, Harris helped lead Michigan State to four bowl games, two Big Ten Championships (2013, 2015), victories in the Rose Bowl and Cotton Bowl, and a berth in the College Football Playoff. Harris, 26, graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism in 2015 and his master's degree in marketing research in 2019.

LISA BEN-CHAIM

DIRECTOR OF ON-CAMPUS RECRUITING

Lisa Ben-Chaim enters her first year as the director on-campus recruiting at Michigan State. Ben-Chaim coordinates all recruiting special events, including all official and unofficial visits. She also assists in the management of game day operations and is responsible for football and basketball game day tickets for all recruits and their guests. In addition, Ben-Chaim works alongside Chief of Staff Geoff Martzen on the structure and direction of recruiting related projects. Ben-Chaim previously spent the 2019 season as a management intern at Arizona State. In her role, she assisted in recruiting new student-athletes to campus and served as a resource to the Sun Devil football coaching and recruiting staffs. A graduate of UCF with a bachelor's degree in business administration/marketing, Ben-Chaim served as a student ambassador for UCF football for three years.

SIMONE PROULX

DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL ADMINISTRATION

Simone Proulx is in her 13th year working with the Spartan football program, her first as the director of football administration. She spent the previous six years serving as the head football coach executive administrator for Mark Dantonio. Proulx plays a vital role in the day-to-day operations of the program, including coordinating housing for the program. She also supervises the Spartan Aide staff. Proulx joined the Spartan football staff in 2008 as a sport operations assistant. She received her bachelor's degree in health studies with a specialization in bioethics from Michigan State, and also earned her master's degree from MSU in sports administration.

LORENZO GUESS

ASSOCIATE HEAD STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH

Associate head strength and conditioning coach Lorenzo Guess, a former Michigan State safety, is in his ninth year on staff at MSU. Guess was named a Master Strength and Conditioning Coach by the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches association (CSCCa) in May 2020, the highest honor given in the strength and conditioning coaching profession. In addition, Guess serves as the Director of Player Enrichment, which includes coordinating and supervising the "Overtime" player development program. Guess returned to East Lansing in 2012 to work with former longtime MSU head strength and conditioning coach Ken Mannie and former head football coach Mark Dantonio for eight seasons (2012-19). Guess has 15 years of experience as a strength and conditioning coach at the collegiate level. Since Guess' arrival as a full-time staff member, the Spartans have won two Big Ten Championships (2013, 2015) and played in seven bowl games, including three BCS/New Year's Six bowls (2014 Rose, 2015 Cotton, 2015 CFP Semifinal at Cotton Bowl).

BILL BURGHARDT

ASSOCIATE STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH

Bill Burghardt, who is in his ninth year on the full-time strength and conditioning staff at MSU, was promoted to associate strength and conditioning coach in June 2018. He also added the duties of football analytics coordinator in 2018, a role that includes collecting, analyzing, interpreting and disseminating results of the Cataplult GPS data for the staff. Burghardt, who spent two seasons (2010-11) as a strength and conditioning graduate assistant at Michigan State, rejoined the Spartan program in July 2012. He has been a part of two Big Ten Championship teams and seven bowl games since being appointed to the full-time staff. Burghardt is a certified strength and conditioning specialist with the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association (CSCCa) and the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA).

RICK DANISON

ASSISTANT STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH

Rick Danison is in his first year as an assistant director of strength and conditioning at Michigan State. Danison spent the previous 11 years at Indiana, including five years as the Director of Athletic Performance at the Wilkinson Performance Center. During his career in collegiate athletics, Danison has worked with more than 100 All-Americans, eight national champions, 17 Big Ten champions (1 team), 16 NFL draftees, 12 Big Ten record holders, 10 NCAA record holders, five Big Ten Athletes of the Year, four National Athletes of the Year, two Regional Athletes of the Year, an Olympic gold and bronze medalist, and a Bowerman Award winner. Danison also has experience working in the NFL, serving as a strength and conditioning assistant with the Cincinnati Bengals from 2008-09.

TAYLOR PORTER

ASSISTANT STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH

Taylor Porter, who has 11 years of experience working at both the NFL and Power 5 levels, enters his first season as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for football at Michigan State. Porter arrived at MSU after working as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for the Jacksonville Jaguars last year. He previously spent three seasons as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for the Tennessee Titans (2016-18), and has also been a strength and conditioning intern for the Cleveland Browns (2015), Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2015) and Houston Texans (2013). Porter was an assistant strength and conditioning coach at Nebraska from 2013-15, assisting with all aspects of the strength and conditioning program for football, including winter conditioning, summer workouts and in-season training. He has also worked as a strength and conditioning coach at TCU (2010) and Louisville (2010-13).

SUPPORT STAFF

JOE POWELL
ASSISTANT STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH

Joe Powell is in his first year as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for football at Michigan State. Powell spent the past two seasons (2018-19) as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for Utah State's football team. He also served as the head strength and conditioning coach for softball and women's basketball for the Aggies. Powell's duties at USU included assisting in the design and implementation of the year-round strength and conditioning program, along with the transitional rehab/return program for student-athletes. Prior to Utah State, Powell spent three years as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for Central Michigan's football team.

TRAVARES TILLMAN
SENIOR DEFENSIVE ASSISTANT

Travares Tillman is in his first year on the Spartan football staff as a senior defensive assistant. Tillman followed Mel Tucker to East Lansing after spending one season as the defensive backs coach at Colorado in 2019. Tillman previously was at Georgia for three seasons (2016-18), where he also worked with Tucker. Tillman was a graduate assistant with the defensive backs the first two years before transitioning into a quality control role with the defense for the 2018 season. After Tucker accepted the CU job, Tillman helped the Bulldogs defensive backs prepare for their Sugar Bowl matchup against Texas. At Georgia, he helped tutor DeAndre Baker, an All-American and the 2018 Thorpe Award winner given to the nation's top defensive back. He worked directly with Tucker in coaching the safeties and assisted with recruiting along with coaching the offensive scout team.

DALMIN GIBSON
SPECIAL TEAMS ANALYST

Dalmin Gibson is in his first year on the Spartan staff as a special teams analyst. Gibson spent the previous three seasons at Colorado (2017-19), having joined the program in June 2017 as a graduate assistant working with the defense (mainly the inside linebackers). Gibson began his coaching career at his alma mater, Dickinson State (N.D.) University, as a student coach while he completed his degree. He was assigned his position in college outside linebacker to coach. He was a four-year letterman at DSU at outside linebacker, starting his senior year in 2013. After he earned his degree, Gibson moved on to Wayne State College, where as a graduate assistant, he worked with the defense and in particular the cornerbacks. After one season there, he returned to his alma mater as a full-time assistant coaching the cornerbacks and special teams in 2016.

TJ HOLLOWELL
DEFENSIVE ANALYST

TJ Hollowell, who played four seasons of professional football, enters his first year on the Spartan staff as a defensive analyst. Hollowell arrives in East Lansing after spending two seasons (2018-19) coaching at Coastal Carolina. He has also coached at Santa Margarita (Calif.) Catholic High School (2016-17), Youngstown State (2015) and Huntsville (Texas) High School (2014). A former starter at Nebraska, Hollowell compiled 173 career tackles during his time with the Huskers from 2000-03 and helped the Huskers to four bowl games, including the BCS National Championship Game in 2001. Following his professional career, in which he played with the Giants in 2004 and the Jets in 2005, he held a variety of coaching roles at his alma mater, including a defensive graduate assistant.

EFFREM REED
OFFENSIVE ANALYST

Effrem Reed joins the Spartan football program as an offensive analyst after spending the past two seasons (2018-19) as the director of player engagement at Louisiana. He also served as an on-campus recruiting quality control assistant and graduate assistant coach for the Ragin' Cajuns. Reed was a four-year letterwinner as a running back for Louisiana from 2012-15. He played under offensive coordinator Jay Johnson, who served in the same role for the Ragin' Cajuns during Reed's career. As a redshirt freshman in 2012, Reed recorded career highs in rushing yards (414), carries (86) and rushing TDs (5). Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Reed played in 44 games throughout his collegiate career and compiled nearly 1,000 all-purpose yards to go along with eight TDs.

NICK RUFFING
OFFENSIVE ANALYST

Nick Ruffing is in his 11th year with the Michigan State football program, his fifth as a full-time offensive analyst. Ruffing provides the offensive coaches with statistical reports, including self-scouting, game film analysis and opponent tendency details. In addition, he handles opponent defensive breakdowns and scouting materials. Ruffing previously served as a strength and conditioning graduate assistant in 2009-10, an offensive graduate assistant in 2011, and a video intern in 2012 and 2013. Ruffing returned to MSU in 2015 during the Spartans' Big Ten Championship season as a recruiting intern after serving as the scouting/player personnel intern for the Detroit Lions in 2014.

WILL PRICE
Operations Assistant/ Special Assistant to the Head Coach

BEN MATHERS
Assistant Director of Football Operations

TESSA AKERS
On-Campus Recruiting Coordinator

LAUREN MCCREE
On-Campus Recruiting Coordinator

CAM CLEMINSON
Defensive Graduate Assistant

CORDAE HANKTON
Defensive Graduate Assistant

JACK HARRIS
Offensive Graduate Assistant

JACK TAB
Offensive Graduate Assistant

SALLY NOGLE
Head Athletic Trainer

TAMARIA HIBBLER
Football Athletic Trainer

BRETT PENNING
Football Athletic Trainer

ANDREW KOLPACKI
Head Football Equipment Manager

DAN KALCHIK
Football Equipment Manager

CHRIS PLASTER
Director of Football Technology

DEREK MARCKEL
Creative Director

AUSTIN FLYNN
Director of Creative Video

LIZZY OTTEN
Graphic Designer

TODD EDWARDS
Executive Director of Student-Athlete Support Services

MANDY CHANDLER
Associate Director of Student-Athlete Support Services

ANTWAN JOSEPH
Assistant Director of Student-Athlete Support Services

ALEXANDRA BRESKE
Compliance

ROB MASTERSON
Director of Performance Nutrition

RAYANNE NGUYEN
Assistant Sports Performance Dietitian

CINDY MEJORADO
Administrative Assistant

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ALL-DECADE TEAM

DARQUEZE DENNARD, MIKE SADLER NAMED TO BTN ALL-DECADE TEAM

Two former Michigan State All-Americans - Darqueze Dennard and the late Mike Sadler - were named to the BTN All-Decade Team, which was released over the summer. The All-Decade Team was selected by a panel of 24 media members who cover Big Ten football.

Dennard and Sadler were both on the 2013 Spartan team that defeated No. 2 Ohio State in the Big Ten Championship Game, beat No. 5 Stanford in the 100th Rose Bowl, finished No. 3 in the national polls and won a school-record 13 games. Dennard is in his seventh season in the NFL in 2020 with the Atlanta Falcons; he played six years (2014-19) with the Bengals. Sadler was tragically killed in a car accident in 2016 at the age of 24.

Dennard was a unanimous first-team All-American in 2013 and became the first Spartan to win the Jim Thorpe Award, which is given annually to the nation's best defensive back. He was a first-round selection in the 2014 NFL Draft (No. 24) by the Cincinnati Bengals.

Dennard also was selected recipient of the Jack Tatum Award, presented to college football's best defensive back by The Touchdown Club of Columbus. In addition, he was named one of five finalists for the Bronko Nagurski Trophy (presented to the nation's top defensive player by the Football Writers Association of America).

The Dry Branch, Georgia, native was chosen the Tatum-Woodson Big Ten Defensive Back of the Year and earned first-team All-Big Ten honors for the second year in a row in 2013. A unanimous first-team All-Big Ten pick by the coaches, he was named Big Ten Defensive MVP by ESPN.com and CollegeFootballNews.com.

Dennard finished the 2013 season ranked fourth on the team with a career-high 62 tackles, including 3.5 for loss (8 yards). He led the team and ranked sixth in the Big Ten with 14 passes defended, and also tied for the team lead with four interception and 10 pass break-ups.

Dennard was one of the main reasons Michigan State finished No. 1 in the FBS in pass efficiency defense (92.3 rating), No. 2 in total defense (252.2 ypg.) and No. 3 in pass defense (165.6 ypg.).

A three-year starter at cornerback, Dennard collected 167 tackles and 30 passes defended (20 pass break-ups, 10 interceptions) in 44 career games, including 40 starts (29 consecutive to close out career). He finished his career ranked tied for 11th in MSU history with 10 interceptions.

On the field, Sadler was a master of his craft and one of the greatest and most productive punters in program history. In the classroom, he achieved an ever rarer feat, becoming the first student-athlete at Michigan State to earn Academic All-America honors four times.

A two-time first-team All-Big Ten selection (2012, 2013), Sadler finished his career ranked among MSU's all-time leaders in punts (second with 268), punting yards (second with 11,307) and punting average (sixth at 42.2). A valuable weapon on special teams, he placed 39 percent of his career punts inside the 20 (104-of-268) and 21 percent inside the 10 (56-of-268).

Sadler earned first-team Academic All-America honors in 2013 and 2014 and second-team accolades in 2011 and 2012. In addition to becoming MSU's first-ever four-time honoree, he also became just the third Spartan (Dean Altobelli, 1985-86; Steve Wasylk, 1992-93) and 34th Big Ten football player to earn first-team Academic All-America honors twice.

A member of the 2014 National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete Class, Sadler was one of 17 finalists for the William V. Campbell Trophy, which is given to the nation's top scholar-athlete.

A native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sadler graduated with a bachelor's degree in applied engineering sciences in May 2013 with a 3.97 grade-point average. He received his master's degree in public policy in May 2015 with a 3.84 graduate GPA. Sadler was scheduled to begin law school at Stanford in the fall of 2016.

Sadler also was a four-time Academic All-Big Ten selection (2011-14) and a two-time Big Ten Distinguished Scholar (2012-13). He was presented the scholar-athlete award at the Spartan Academic Excellence Gala three consecutive years (2013-15) for having the highest GPA on the team for players who have reached at least junior academic status, and received the Big Ten Conference Medal of Honor in 2015.

Sadler earned All-America status on the field during MSU's Big Ten and Rose Bowl Championship season in 2013, as he was named a first-team All-American by CBSSports.com and ESPN.com. Sadler ranked fourth in the Big Ten in punting with his 42.5-yard average and led the NCAA FBS with 24 punts downed inside the 10 and ranked tied for second with 33 inside the 20. An honorable mention All-Big Ten selection in 2014, he ranked seventh in the Big Ten in punting with his 41.2-yard average.

Sadler was tragically killed in a car accident on July 23, 2016, in Wisconsin at the age of 24. He was posthumously inducted into the Michigan State Athletics Hall of Fame in 2016.

His legacy lives on through the Michael Sadler Foundation (https://www.michaelsadlerfoundation.org/).

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Michigan State Athletics and Fox Sports College Properties announced in August 2020 a new partnership with TCF Bank to rebrand the statewide Spartan Sports Network as the TCF Bank Spartan Media Network.

In addition, long-term extensions were announced with the three flagship stations that anchor the network: Detroit's WJR 760-AM, Lansing's WVFN 730/ WJIM 1240-AM and 94.9 WMMQ-FM.

The TCF Bank Spartan Media Network is the largest and most expansive radio network in the State of Michigan and extends its programming nationally and worldwide via partnerships with SiriusXM and TuneIn radio.

Affiliate	Market	Frequency
WQBX	Alma	104.9
WKJZ	Alpena	94.9
WLEW	Bad Axe	1340
WBCK	Battle Creek	95.3
WCSY	South Haven	103.7
WJR	Detroit	760
WWCK	Flint	1570
WGHN	Muskegon	92.1
WBFX	Grand Rapids	101.3
WBCH	Hastings	100.1
WZNL	Iron Mountain	94.3
WKHM	Jackson	101.9

Affiliate	Market	Frequency
WMMQ	Lansing	94.9
WJIM	Lansing	1240 / 106.9
WLDN	Ludington	98.7
WRUP	Marquette	98.3
WLUN	Midland	100.9
WQXO	Munising	1400 / 97.7
WUPY	Ontonagon	101.1
WPHM	Port Huron	1380
WILZ	Saginaw	104.5
WQLB	Tawas City	103.3
WJZQ	Traverse City	92.9

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SPARTAN STADIUM

Spartan Stadium is in its 97th season as home to Michigan State football. Since its opening in 1923, Michigan State has won 70 percent of its games played in Spartan Stadium. The Spartans hosted their 500th game at Spartan Stadium on Oct. 12, 2013, against Indiana on Homecoming.

One of just four collegiate football fields in the country to win Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) Field of the Year honors twice (2005 and 2016), Spartan Stadium got a new playing surface for the 2019 season. The project, which took place in the spring of 2019, replaced the modular field system with a conventional grass field. The modules were first installed in 2002 when Spartan Stadium returned to natural grass for the first time in 33 years and were renovated following the 2011 U2 concert in which the entire surface had to be replaced.

The sod for the new field was grown at Tuckahoe Turfgrass Farms in New Jersey, the number one provider of high quality athletic field turfgrass for the Midwest and northeastern part of the country. The soil types at Tuckahoe Farms provided a natural match to the engineered root zone that is utilized in Spartan Stadium. Sod from Tuckahoe Farms can be seen in professional stadiums across the country, including Lambeau Field, Lincoln Financial Field and Heinz Field in the NFL. Along with the Michigan State turf management staff, Fields Inc. helped oversee the installation of the new grass in Spartan Stadium.

Spartan Stadium (capacity: 75,005) represents a tribute to Michigan State's football past and a vote of confidence in its future. Since 2012, more than $50 million has been committed to upgrading the 97-year-old facility to continually enhance the game day atmosphere.

In December 2016, the Michigan State Board of Trustees approved a $13 million addition to the south end of Spartan Stadium that opened prior to the 2017 season. The 20,000-square-foot single-story project features the addition of 236 bathrooms, four concession stand areas (completed as a separate project for the 2018 season), and movement of the ticket entrances out from the stadium structure to create donor plazas and renovated gates similar to the North End Zone. In addition, permanent light structures, featuring LED field lighting, were installed over the summer in 2017 as part of the requirement of the new Big Ten broadcast agreement. The $2 million project meets NCAA national championship broadcast lighting levels of 125 vertical foot candles, and the field lighting is fully controllable.

In June 2013, the MSU Board of Trustees approved a $24.5 million project to the north end of Spartan Stadium that opened in August 2014. The structure features a two-story, 50,000-square-foot addition as well as an entrance plaza, renovated gates, and additional restrooms and concessions. The building includes locker rooms for teams, coaches and officials, including a 4,500-square-foot home locker room and a 700-square-foot home training room, in addition to a 3,600-square-foot media center and a 4,000-square-foot engagement center for all varsity sports. Former All-America offensive lineman Flozell Adams provided a leadership gift of $1.5 million for MSU's new locker room, which is named in honor of his later mother, Rachel Adams.

Prior to the 2012 season, new high-def Panasonic video screens and scoreboards as well as a new sound system were installed in Spartan Stadium. The new scoreboard/video screen in the south end zone is 5,300-square feet, compared to its predecessor that measured just 567-square feet (installed in 1998). The top of the new south end zone structure reaches 130 feet. In addition, two new video boards as well as an LED ribbon board were added to the north end zone. The LED ribbon board covers 4,500 square feet (450- feet long and 10-feet high). Combined, the south and north video screens/scoreboards total 13,300-square feet. The $10 million project replaced a 14-year-old scoreboard, message board and audio system. In July 2014, ESPN named Spartan Stadium's south end zone scoreboard among the Top 10 in the nation at No. 9.

A $64 million expansion project completed prior to the start of the 2005 football season featured the addition of nearly 3,000 seats, including 24 suites and a 193- seat press box, bringing the current stadium capacity to 75,005. "The Spartan" statue was relocated to the atrium of the new structure. The 200,000-squarefoot addition also houses the MSU Alumni Association, University Development and other units. The Michigan State Board of Trustees approved the major addition and expansion project of Spartan Stadium in September 2003. Barton Malow/Clark served as the construction manager for the Spartan Stadium expansion project, with HNTB providing architectural services.

Spartan Stadium, which officially opened in 1923 at its current location, featured a natural grass playing surface until artificial turf was installed in 1969. The stadium returned to natural grass for the 2002 season. In 2005 and 2016, the natural grass playing surface in Spartan Stadium earned Field of the Year honors from the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA).

Since 1957, capacity crowds have attended 178 games in Spartan Stadium, including the single-game record 80,401 fans who witnessed MSU's 20-19 loss to top-ranked Notre Dame on Sept. 22, 1990. The Spartans have ranked among the NCAA's Top 25 in attendance each of the last 64 seasons, including 19th in 2019, averaging 67,819 fans per game. Michigan State also ranked 19th in the NCAA in total attendance in 2019 as 474,731 fans went through the turnstiles for seven home games, including a season-high 73,531 vs. Arizona State on Sept. 14.

A series of projects paralleling the Spartans' rise to national football prominence enlarged the steel-and-concrete facility from its original 14,000 seats in 1923 to its present size.

The first came in 1935, the year in which the stadium was officially named Macklin Field, boosting the capacity to 26,000. The 1948 enlargement raised the total to 51,000.

After 9,000 new seats upped the capacity to 60,000 in 1956, the upper decks were added to the east and west stands in 1957, bringing the capacity to 76,000. It also became Spartan Stadium that year. Renovations during the summer of 1994 improved sight-lines and comfort for fans, while reducing the capacity to 72,027.

On Oct. 6, 2001, Spartan Stadium added another chapter to its storied history as a then world-record crowd of 74,554 attended the MSU-Michigan outdoor hockey game.

Michigan State has compiled a 372-160-13 record (.694) since taking up residency in Spartan Stadium (formerly Macklin Field) in 1923. The Spartans have gone undefeated at home 20 times since the stadium opened in 1923, including four times under former MSU head coach Mark Dantonio (2010, 2011, 2013, 2015). In addition, Michigan State has suffered only one home loss during a season 30 times. Under Dantonio, the Spartans were 67-24 (.736) in home games since 2007, including a 15-game winning streak (7-0 in 2010, 7-0 in 2011, won first game in 2012) and a 12-game winning streak (7-0 in 2013, won first five in 2014), which rank second and tied for third longest, respectively, in Spartan Stadium history.

Michigan State's longest home winning streak at Spartan Stadium is 19 games from Oct. 14, 1950, through Nov. 21, 1953.

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Will Gholston
Current Defensive End for Tampa Bay Buccaneeers
Defensive End for MSU Spartans, 2010-2012
From Detroit, Michigan

Sports Nutrition Remains Top in Mind for Athletes

Obtaining sports nutrition is now easier than ever for athletes due to the growth of technology. Athletes are receiving advice and recommendations from many outlets; whether it comes directly from their coach at practice, in a scientific study trending in the media, or all the way from a celebrity athlete posting their favorite healthy "meals and tricks" on social media. Athletes deep down know it's important to have a healthy diet, but they may not always know where to start in their fitness journey. Football Magazine chats with Melissa Gerharter, MS, RD, CSSD, to learn more about sports nutrition, the importance of recovery, and how athletes of all ages can effortlessly implement a well-balanced diet fitted for their fitness goals. Check out the exclusive interview below!

FM: When it comes to sports, why is nutrition important for athletes?

MG: Nutrition is extremely important for athletes! You can't drive a car with no gas, so don't try and make your body run on empty either. Without proper nutrition, athletes are not able to give one-hundred percent in practice or training. If they aren't able to give everything they have in training, then that effort is most likely going to be reflective in competition. Another important thing to add, improper fueling can also lead to injury. The last thing an athlete wants is to become injured taking, them out of the game.

FM: What are some good food options athletes can easily add into their diet in order to get the right nutrients?

MG: Two things stick out to me; balance and consumption. Balance is eating a variety of foods from all of the food groups, which is the best way to ensure that you are getting all of the necessary nutrients. Whole grains, fruits & vegetables, lean protein and dairy all contain nutrients essential to muscle growth, repair and recovery. Secondly, you need to make sure you are consuming enough to support your activity. Again, this is imperative in letting your body perform at its peak and allowing for growth, repair, and recovery to happen.

FM: The life of an athlete can be a busy one, and sometimes snacking on the road is the only option. What are some good snack ideas out there right now?

MG: Right now, I am currently loving the many different options of yogurts out there. They are easy to grab for on-the-go and are perfect from a nutrition stand-point for athletes. For instance, Greek yogurts provide protein, which is very important for athletes, where other yogurts and kefirs have probiotics that can help with the immune system. In general, dairy is a great option for athletes since it contains nine essential nutrients that are important for overall health, like protein, thanks to the amino acid Leucine, which supports muscle growth.

FM: We are constantly hearing athletes need *"Recovery Nutrition"* after working out. Can you explain to us what recovery nutrition is and why it is so important for athletes?

MG: Of course! Recovery nutrition is replacing nutrients that your body just used in exercise. It's important to replace the nutrients that were lost in the bout of exercise so that glycogen stores can be refilled, muscles can start repairing and rebuilding, and rehydration can start happening. One of my favorite options to recommend to athletes' post-exercise is chocolate milk. This drink is a great recovery option due to the ratio of 3 to 1, carbs to protein, and has proven to help athletes recover, repair and therefore perform better in their next workout session.

FM: Oh yes, the chocolate milk trend has been on many athletes' radar as the "Recovery Drink" of choice! Why do you think athletes are choosing to drink chocolate milk?

MG: There are a number reasons why I think athletes are gearing towards chocolate milk. First off, chocolate milk is cost effective; many sports drinks/supplements can be very expensive, and chocolate milk is a very affordable, effective option. Also, it's accessible. You can find chocolate milk in grocery stores and convenience stores. Most importantly, I honestly think chocolate milk is loved by athletes because it tastes great! I have to admit, I don't find many athletes arguing about drinking chocolate milk!

FM: What tips do you have out there for athletes who are striving to be their healthiest, best-self?

MG: Don't be too hard on yourself. Everyday won't be perfect and that's okay. Eat to perform like an athlete, allow your body to recover and have fun!

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Sport's dietitians, like Melissa Gerharter, provide nutrition counseling and education to individuals or groups (teams) in order to enrichen the performance of competitive and recreational athletes. One of their primary responsibilities is counseling individuals and groups on daily nutrition for performance and health while using scientific evidence to provide recommendations on sports nutrition based on an individual's lifestyle.

Melissa Gerharter MS, RD, CSSD is a certified specialist in Sports Dietetics. She has worked with athletes of all levels on best nutrition strategies to fuel their sport. She is an adjunct lecturer at Eastern Michigan University, where she has taught Sports Nutrition for the past 10 years. She currently works for The United Dairy Industry of Michigan as the Executive Director of Youth Wellness. In addition to competing in marathons, triathlons, and CrossFit events, she is also a certified personal trainer and health coach.

Approved by the Michigan Dairy Market Program Committee.

SPARTANS IN THE NFL

as of September 22, 2020

Brian Allen
OL, Los Angeles Rams

Joe Bachie
LB, New Orleans Saints
(practice squad)

Le'Veon Bell
RB, New York Jets

Shilique Calhoun
LB, New England Patriots

Jack Conklin
OT, Cleveland Browns

Darqueze Dennard
CB, Atlanta Falcons

SPARTANS IN THE NFL

as of September 22, 2020

Andrew Dowell
LB, New Orleans Saints
(practice squad)

Bennie Fowler
WR, New Orleans Saints

Kirk Cousins
QB, Minnesota Vikings

Brian Hoyer
QB, New England Patriots

Justin Layne
CB, Pittsburgh Steelers

Taybor Pepper
LS, San Francisco 49ers

SPARTANS IN THE NFL

as of September 22, 2020

Josiah Scott
CB, Jacksonville Jaguars

Trae Waynes
CB, Cincinnati Bengals

William Gholston
DE, Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Kenny Willekes
DE, Minnesota Vikings (injured/reserve list)

Raequan Williams
DT, Philadelphia Eagles
(practice squad)

Khari Willis
S, Indianapolis Colts

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NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

In its 123-year football history, Michigan State has won six national championships according to the list of major selectors recognized by the NCAA, including three consensus titles (1952, 1965 and 1966).

1951 National Champions (9-0-0)

Selectors: Billingsley, Helms, Poling.

1952 National Champions (9-0-0)

Selectors: Consensus - AP, UPI, Boand, DeVold, Dunkel, Football Research, Helms, Litkenhous, National Championship Foundation, Sagarin, Williamson.

1955 National Champions (9-1-0)

Selector: Boand

1957 National Champions (8-1-0)

Selector: Dunkel

1965 National Champions (10-1-0)

Selectors: Consensus - UPI, NFF, FWAA, Berryman, Billingsley, DeVold, Dunkel, FB News, Helms, Litkenhous, Poling, Sagarin, Sagarin (ELO-Chess).

1966 National Champions (9-0-1)

Selectors: Consensus - NFF, Football Research, Helms, Poling.

BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

1953 (9-1, 5-1 BIG TEN)

It was a year of firsts for the Michigan State football program in 1953. In its first year of Big Ten competition, the Spartans claimed their first conference championship and also won its first Rose Bowl with a 28-20 victory over UCLA, in what would be Biggie Munn's final game as head coach. Michigan State won its last five games of the season and finished ranked No. 3 in both The Associated Press and United Press International Polls. It closed out a three-year span in which Michigan State went 27-1, including a school-record 28-game winning streak.

1965 (10-1, 7-0 BIG TEN)

Perhaps the most dominant team in school history, the 1965 Spartans claimed the program's second consensus National Championship and second Big Ten title. Michigan State featured eight All-Americans, including four players (Clinton Jones, Bubba Smith, Gene Washington, George Webster) in the College Football Hall of Fame. MSU crushed its competition in the regular season, leading the Big Ten in conference games in several categories, including rushing offense, total offense, scoring, total defense, rushing defense and scoring defense. The defense allowed just 5.6 points per game and 173.2 yards per game, school records that still stand today.

1966 (9-0-1, 7-0 BIG TEN)

The 1966 Spartan team picked right up where the 1965 team left off, winning the consensus National Championship and Big Ten title for the second straight year. Five players earned back-to-back first-team All-America honors (Robert Apisa, Clinton Jones, Bubba Smith, Gene Washington and George Webster) and a school-record 11 players earned first-team All-Big Ten recognition. Since Big Ten schools were not allowed to go to the Rose Bowl in consecutive years, the season ended in the famous "Game of the Century" 10-10 tie against No. 1 Notre Dame on Nov. 19 in Spartan Stadium.

1978 (8-3, 7-1 BIG TEN)

The 1978 Big Ten Champion Spartans set numerous offensive records and still hold the conference record for most yards gained (523.1 ypg.) in league games. The team's scoring average of 37.4 points per game is the second-highest total in school history; in addition, MSU ranked first in conference games in passing offense (247.9 ypg.) and scoring (41.0 ppg.). The Spartans began their seven-game winning streak to close the season with a 24-15 win at Michigan on Oct. 14.

1987 (9-2-1, 7-0-1 BIG TEN)

Michigan State won the 1987 Big Ten Championship outright with a 7-0-1 record and went on to defeat USC in the Rose Bowl, 20-17. The Spartans went unbeaten in their last nine games of the season and topped Indiana at Spartan Stadium on Nov. 14, 27-3, to clinch a spot in the Rose Bowl. Following the victory over USC, Michigan State closed the season ranked No. 8 in both The Associated Press and USA Today Coaches' Polls.

1990 (8-3-1, 6-2 BIG TEN)

Coach George Perles led the Spartans to the Big Ten Championship in 1990 as Michigan State won its final five Big Ten games of the season to claim a share of the conference title. Among the Spartan victories that season was a 28-27 win at No. 1 Michigan on Oct. 13. MSU defeated USC in the John Hancock Bowl, 17-16, en route to finishing No. 15 in the USA Today Coaches' Poll and No. 16 in The Associated Press Poll.

2010 (11-2, 7-1 BIG TEN)

In Mark Dantonio's fourth season as head coach at Michigan State, the 2010 Spartans won a then school-record 11 games and claimed the school's first Big Ten Championship in 20 years. MSU went 7-1 in Big Ten play and clinched a share of the title with its 28-22 win at Penn State in the final game of the regular season. The Spartans earned a berth in the 2011 Capital One Bowl on New Year's Day, marking the fourth straight bowl appearance for the program. Michigan State finished the season ranked No. 14 in the final Associated Press and USA Today Coaches' Polls.

2013 (13-1, 8-0 BIG TEN)

The Spartans finished their 2013 Big Ten regular-season schedule with a perfect 8-0 record for the first time in school history and claimed their second Legends Division title in three seasons. Michigan State became the first Big Ten team to win all eight of their conference games by double-digit points since the league went to an eight-game schedule in 1971. In addition, MSU was the first undefeated Big Ten team to win all of its league games by double-figure points since 1943. The Spartans went on to top No. 2 Ohio State in the Big Ten Championship Game, 34-24. Michigan State won its school-record 13th game with a thrilling come-from-behind 24-20 triumph over No. 5 Stanford in the 100th Rose Bowl Game. MSU finished No. 3 in both The Associated Press and USA TODAY Coaches' Polls, the highest ranking for the program since 1966.

2015 (12-2, 7-1 BIG TEN)

Michigan State, which finished the 2015 season with the second-most wins in school history (12-2 record), won the Big Ten Championship for the second time in three years and reached the College Football Playoff, closed the season ranked No. 6 in the final Associated Press and USA TODAY/Amway Coaches Polls. The Spartans finished ranked among the nation's Top 10 for the third year in a row (No. 3 in both polls in 2013; No. 5 in both polls in 2014) - a program first since 1955-57. Michigan State won its second Big Ten Championship in three years and ninth in school history with a 16-13 victory over No. 4 Iowa on Dec. 5. Mark Dantonio established a school record for a head coach by winning his third Big Ten Championship (2010, 2013, 2015).

COACHING HISTORY

COACH	(ALMA MATER)	PERIOD	YEARS	G	W-L-T	PCT.
No established coach	-	1896	(1)	4	1-2-1	.375
Henry Keep	-	1897-1898	(2)	14	8-5-1	.607
Charles O. Bemies	(West Theo. Sem.)	1899-1900	(2)	11	3-7-1	.318
George E. Denman	(West Theo. Sem.)	1901-1902	(2)	17	7-9-1	.441
Chester L. Brewer	(Wisconsin)	1903-1910, 1917, 1919	(10)	88	58-23-7	.699
John F. Macklin	(Pennsylvania)	1911-1915	(5)	34	29-5-0	.853
Frank Sommers	(Pennsylvania)	1916	(1)	7	4-2-1	.643
George E. Gauthier	(Michigan State)	1918	(1)	7	4-3-0	.571
George "Potsy" Clark	(Illinois)	1920	(1)	10	4-6-0	.400
Albert M. Barron	(Penn State)	1921-1922	(2)	18	6-10-2	.389
Ralph H. Young	(Chicago-W&J)	1923-1927	(5)	41	18-22-1	.451
Harry G. Kipke	(Michigan 1925)	1928	(1)	8	3-4-1	.438
James H. Crowley	(Notre Dame 1925)	1929-1932	(4)	33	22-8-3	.712
Charles W. Bachman	(Notre Dame 1917)	1933-1946	(13)	114	70-34-10	.658
Clarence "Biggie" Munn	(Minnesota 1932)	1947-1953	(7)	65	54-9-2	.846
Hugh Duffy Daugherty	(Syracuse 1940)	1954-1972	(19)	183	109-69-5	.609
Dennis E. Stolz	(Alma 1955)	1973-1975	(3)	33	19-13-1	.591
Darryl D. Rogers	(Fresno State 1957)	1976-1979	(4)	44	24-18-2	.568
Frank "Muddy" Waters	(Michigan State 1950)	1980-1982	(3)	33	10-23-0	.303
George J. Perles	(Michigan State 1960)	1983-1994	(12)	139	68-67-4	.504
Nick Saban	(Kent 1973)	1995-1999	(5)	59	34-24-1	.585
Bobby Williams	(Purdue 1982)	2000-2002	(3)	32	16-17-0	.485
Morris Watts	(Tulsa 1961)	2002	*	3	1-2-0	.333
John L. Smith	(Weber State 1971)	2003-2006	(4)	48	22-26-0	.458
Mark Dantonio	(South Carolina 1979)	2007-2019	(13)	171	114-57-0	.667
Mel Tucker	(Wisconsin 1995)	2020-	(1)			
TOTALS		**1896-2019**	**(123)**	**1,217**	**708-465-44**	**.600**

*Served as interim head coach for the final three games of the 2002 season.

During "Biggie" Munn's seven-year tenure from 1947-53, the Spartans won back-to-back National Championships (1951-52), rattled off a school record 28-game winning streak, and won the 1953 Big Ten co-championship in his final season as head coach.

In 19 seasons as Michigan State's head coach (1954-72), Hugh Duffy Daugherty compiled a 109-69-5 record and led the Spartans to four National Championships (1955, 1957, 1965 and 1966).

George Perles led the Spartans to the Big Ten Championship in 1987 and a 20-17 victory over Southern California in the 1988 Rose Bowl. In 1990, Michigan State won its last five league games to earn a share of another Big Ten title.

Mark Dantonio retired on Feb. 4, 2020, as the winningest coach in Michigan State history, collecting a 114-57 (.667) record in 13 seasons with a school-record three Big Ten Championships (2010, 2013, 2015) and six bowl wins (2012 Outback, 2012 Buffalo Wild Wings, 2014 Rose, 2015 Cotton, 2017 Holiday, 2019 Pinstripe).

PASSING RECORDS

PASSING • CAREER

PASS ATTEMPTS

1.	Brian Lewerke	2016-19	1,249
2.	Connor Cook	2012-15	1,170
3.	Jeff Smoker	2000-03	1,150
4.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	1,128
5.	Brian Hoyer	2005-08	896

PASS COMPLETIONS

1.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	723
2.	Brian Lewerke	2016-19	721
3.	Jeff Smoker	2000-03	685
4.	Connor Cook	2012-15	673
5.	Drew Stanton	2003-06	543

INTERCEPTIONS THROWN

1.	Jeff Smoker	2000-03	39
2.	John Leister	1979-82	35
3.	Todd Schultz	1994-97	33
	Dave Yarema	1982-86	33
5.	Brian Lewerke	2016-19	32
	Ed Smith	1976-78	32

PASS COMPLETION PERCENTAGE (MIN. 100 ATTS.)

1.	Drew Stanton (543-846-28)	2003-06	.642
2.	Kirk Cousins (723-1128-30)	2008-11	.641
3.	Jim Miller (467-746-29)	1990-93	.626
4.	Dan Enos (297-478-25)	1987-90	.621
5.	Todd Schultz (360-593-33)	1994-97	.607

PASSING YARDS

1.	Connor Cook	2012-15	9,194
2.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	9,131
3.	Jeff Smoker	2000-03	8,932
4.	Brian Lewerke	2016-19	8,293
5.	Drew Stanton	2003-06	6,524

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

1.	Connor Cook	2012-15	71
2.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	66
3.	Jeff Smoker	2000-03	61
4.	Brian Lewerke	2016-19	47
5.	Bill Burke	1996-99	46

PASSING EFFICIENCY (MIN. 100 ATTS.)

1.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	146.1
2.	Gene Glick	1946-49	143.5
3.	Earl Morrall	1953-55	140.5
4.	Connor Cook	2012-15	139.8
5.	Jim Ninowski	1955-57	139.7

PASSING • SEASON

PASS ATTEMPTS

1.	Jeff Smoker	2003	488
2.	Andrew Maxwell	2012	446
3.	Brian Lewerke	2019	436
4.	Kirk Cousins	2011	419
5.	Connor Cook	2015	408

PASS COMPLETIONS

1.	Jeff Smoker	2003	302
2.	Kirk Cousins	2011	267
3.	Brian Lewerke	2019	260
4.	Drew Stanton	2005	236
5.	Andrew Maxwell	2012	234

INTERCEPTIONS THROWN

1.	Bill Burke	1999	18
2.	Todd Schultz	1997	17
3.	Tony Banks	1995	15
	Dave Yarema	1984	15
5.	Jeff Smoker	2003	14
	John Leister	1980	14
	Ed Smith	1977	14

PASS COMPLETION PERCENTAGE (MIN. 100 ATTS.)

1.	Dave Yarema (200-297-11)	1986	.673
2.	Kirk Cousins (226-338-10)	2010	.669
3.	Drew Stanton (236-354-12)	2005	.667
4.	Drew Stanton (141-220-6)	2004	.641
5.	Jim Miller (215-336-11)	1993	.640

PASSING YARDS

1.	Jeff Smoker	2003	3,395
2.	Kirk Cousins	2011	3,316
3.	Connor Cook	2014	3,214
4.	Connor Cook	2015	3,131
5.	Drew Stanton	2019	3,079

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

1.	Kirk Cousins	2011	25
2.	Connor Cook	2015	24
	Connor Cook	2014	24
3.	Connor Cook	2013	22
	Drew Stanton	2005	22
5.	Jeff Smoker	2003	21
	Jeff Smoker	2001	21

PASSING YARDS PER GAME (MIN. 5 GAMES.)

1.	Drew Stanton	2005	279.7 (11)
2.	Jeff Smoker	2003	261.2 (13)
3.	Connor Cook	2014	247.2 (13)
4.	Connor Cook	2015	240.8 (13)
5.	Kirk Cousins	2011	236.9 (14)

PASSING • GAME

PASS ATTEMPTS

1.	Brian Hoyer (30 comp.)	Penn State	2006	61
2.	Brian Lewerke (39)	Northwestern	2017	57
3.	Brian Lewerke (31)	Penn State	2017	56
4.	Jeff Smoker (35)	Ohio State	2003	55
5.	Drew Stanton (29)	Iowa	2004	54
	John Leister (18)	Purdue	1980	54

PASS COMPLETIONS

1.	Brian Lewerke (57 att.)	Northwestern	2017	39
2.	Jeff Smoker (55)	Ohio State	2003	35
3.	Kirk Cousins (53)	Notre Dame	2011	34
4.	Brian Lewerke (56)	Penn State	2017	33
5.	Jeff Smoker (40)	Indiana	2003	32
	John Leister (46)	Michigan	1982	32

PASSING YARDS

1.	Brian Lewerke (39-57)	Northwestern	2017	445
2.	Brian Lewerke (33-56)	Penn State	2017	400
	Bill Burke (21-36)	Michigan	1999	400
4.	Connor Cook (30-52)	Indiana	2015	398
5.	Jeff Smoker (22-32)	Fresno State	2001	376

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

1.	Drew Stanton	Illinois	2005	5
2.	Brian Lewerke	Northwestern	2017	4
	Connor Cook	Nebraska	2015	4
	Connor Cook	Indiana	2015	4
	Connor Cook	Air Force	2015	4
	Connor Cook	Youngstown State	2013	4
	Brian Hoyer	Penn State	2007	4
	Brian Hoyer	Notre Dame	2007	4
	Jeff Smoker	Penn State	2003	4
	Damon Dowdell	Indiana	2002	4
	Bill Burke	Iowa	1999	4
	Bill Burke	C. Michigan	1998	4
	Ed Smith	Wisconsin	1978	4
	Mike Rasmussen	Indiana	1970	4
	Gene Glick	Iowa State	1948	4

Connor Cook

RUSHING RECORDS

RUSHING • CAREER

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

1.	Lorenzo White	1984-87	1,082
2.	Javon Ringer	2005-08	843
3.	Tico Duckett	1989-92	836
4.	Blake Ezor	1986-89	800
5.	Sedrick Irvin	1996-98	755

RUSHING YARDS

1.	Lorenzo White	1984-87	4,887
2.	Javon Ringer	2005-08	4,398
3.	Tico Duckett	1989-92	4,212
4.	Blake Ezor	1986-89	3,749
5.	Sedrick Irvin	1996-98	3,504

RUSHING AVERAGE (MIN. 150 ATTS.)

1.	George Guerre	1946-48	6.75
2.	Lynn Chandnois	1946-49	6.55
3.	Sherman Lewis	1961-63	6.21
4.	Sonny Grandelius	1948-50	6.09
5.	Derek Hughes	1978-81	6.04

RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

1.	Lorenzo White	1984-87	43
2.	Jeremy Langford	2011-14	40
3.	Jehuu Caulcrick	2004-07	39
4.	Sedrick Irvin	1996-98	35
5.	Javon Ringer	2005-08	34
	Blake Ezor	1986-89	34

RUSHING • SEASON

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

1.	Lorenzo White	1985	419
2.	Javon Ringer	2008	390
3.	Le'Veon Bell	2012	382
4.	Lorenzo White	1987	357
5.	Blake Ezor	1988	322

RUSHING YARDS

1.	Lorenzo White	1985	2,066
2.	Le'Veon Bell	2012	1,793
3.	Javon Ringer	2008	1,637
4.	Lorenzo White	1987	1,572
5.	Jeremy Langford	2014	1,522

RUSHING AVERAGE (MIN. 150 ATTS.)

1.	DeAndra Cobb	2004	7.58
2.	Lynn Chandnois	1948	7.48
3.	Drew Stanton	2004	7.16
4.	George Guerre	1946	7.03
5.	Lynn Chandnois	1949	6.86

RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

1.	Jeremy Langford	2014	22
	Javon Ringer	2008	22
3.	Jehuu Caulcrick	2007	21
4.	Blake Ezor	1989	19
5.	Jeremy Langford	2013	18
	Eric Allen	1971	18

RUSHING • GAME

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

1.	Lorenzo White (292 yds.)	Indiana	1987	56
2.	Lorenzo White (244)	Purdue	1985	53
3.	Lorenzo White (172)	Minnesota	1985	49
4.	Le'Veon Bell (210)	Boise State	2012	44
	Javon Ringer (198)	Indiana	2008	44
	Blake Ezor (250)	Indiana	1988	44

RUSHING YARDS

1.	Eric Allen (29 att.)	Purdue	1971	350
2.	Lorenzo White (56)	Indiana	1987	292
3.	Lorenzo White (25)	Indiana	1985	286
4.	Javon Ringer (43)	Fla. Atlantic	2008	282
5.	Clinton Jones (21)	Iowa	1966	268

RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

1.	Blake Ezor	Northwestern	1989	6
2.	Javon Ringer	Eastern Michigan	2008	5
3.	Edwin Baker	Minnesota	2010	4
	Ashton Leggett	Western Michigan	2009	4
	Jehuu Caulcrick	UAB	2007	4
	T.J. Duckett	Penn State	1999	4
	Sedrick Irvin	Indiana	1996	4
	Scott Greene	Illinois	1995	4
	Craig Thomas	Central Michigan	1993	4
	Craig Thomas	Indiana	1992	4
	Tico Duckett	Purdue	1990	4
	Blake Ezor	Indiana	1989	4
	Steve Smith	Northwestern	1980	4
	Derek Hughes	Minnesota	1979	4
	Eric Allen	Purdue	1971	4
	Eric Allen	Minnesota	1971	4
	Clinton Jones	Iowa	1965	4

Le'Veon Bell

RECEIVING RECORDS

B.J. Cunningham

RECEIVING • CAREER

RECEPTIONS

1.	B.J. Cunningham	2008-11	218
2.	Aaron Burbridge	2012-15	165
3.	Darrell Stewart Jr.	2015-19	150
4.	Tony Lippett	2011-14	149
5.	Matt Trannon	2003-06	148

RECEIVING YARDS

1.	B.J. Cunningham	2008-11	3,086
2.	Andre Rison	1985-88	2,992
3.	Charles Rogers	2001-02	2,821
4.	Kirk Gibson	1975-78	2,347
5.	Tony Lippett	2011-14	2,247

AVERAGE YARDS PER CATCH (MIN. 30 RECEPTIONS)

1.	Kirk Gibson	1975-78	21.0
2.	Charles Rogers	2001-02	20.9
3.	Andre Rison	1985-88	20.5
	Mark Ingram	1983-86	20.5
5.	Daryl Turner	1980-83	20.2

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS

1.	Charles Rogers	2001-02	27
2.	B.J. Cunningham	2008-11	25
3.	Kirk Gibson	1975-78	24
4.	Josiah Price	2013-16	21
5.	Plaxico Burress	1998-99	20
	Andre Rison	1985-88	20

RECEIVING • SEASON

RECEPTIONS

1.	Aaron Burbridge	2015	85
2.	B.J. Cunningham	2011	79
	Devin Thomas	2007	79
4.	Blair White	2009	70
5.	Charles Rogers	2002	68

RECEIVING YARDS

1.	Charles Rogers	2001	1,470
2.	Charles Rogers	2002	1,351
3.	B.J. Cunningham	2011	1,306
4.	Devin Thomas	2007	1,260
5.	Aaron Burbridge	2015	1,258

AVERAGE YARDS PER CATCH (MIN. 20 RECEPTIONS)

1.	Gene Washington	1966	25.1
2.	Andre Rison	1988	24.6
3.	Frank Foreman	1969	24.4
4.	Kirk Gibson	1977	24.1
5.	Octavis Long	1996	23.4

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS

1.	Charles Rogers	2001	14
2.	Charles Rogers	2002	13
3.	B.J. Cunningham	2011	12
	Plaxico Burress	1999	12
5.	Tony Lippett	2014	11

RECEIVING • GAME

RECEPTIONS

1.	Matt Trannon	Eastern Michigan	2006	14
2.	Devin Thomas	Indiana	2007	13
	Plaxico Burress	Florida	2000	13
4.	Blair White	Northwestern	2009	12
	Mitch Lyons	Michigan	1992	12
	Felton Davis	Penn State	2017	12

RECEIVING YARDS

1.	Charles Rogers	Fresno State	2001	270
2.	Plaxico Burress	Michigan	1999	255
3.	Andre Rison	Georgia	1989	252
4.	Charles Rogers	Wisconsin	2001	206
5.	Mark Dell	California	2008	202

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS

1.	Cody White	Rutgers	2019	3
	Aaron Burbridge	Air Force	2015	3
	B.J. Cunningham	Wisconsin (2)	2011	3
	Devin Thomas	Penn State	2007	3
	Plaxico Burress	Florida	2000	3
	Plaxico Burress	Northwestern	1999	3
	Plaxico Burress	Iowa	1999	3
	Andre Rison	Georgia	1989	3
	Mark Ingram	Iowa	1986	3
	Gene Washington	Indiana	1965	3

SCORING/TOTAL OFFENSE RECORDS

SCORING/TOTAL OFFENSE • CAREER

TOTAL POINTS SCORED

1.	Brett Swenson	2006-09	377
2.	Michael Geiger	2013-16	357
3.	Dave Rayner	2001-04	334
4.	John Langeloh	1987-90	308
5.	Dan Conroy	2009-2012	283

ALL-PURPOSE YARDS (INCLUDES RUSHING, RECEIVING AND ALL RETURNS)

1.	Javon Ringer	2005-08	5,426
2.	Lorenzo White	1984-87	5,152
3.	Derrick Mason	1993-96	5,114
4.	Sedrick Irvin	1996-98	4,833
5.	Tico Duckett	1989-92	4,511

TOUCHDOWNS SCORED

1.	Lorenzo White	1984-87	43
2.	Jeremy Langford	2011-14	42
	Sedrick Irvin	1996-98	42
4.	Jehuu Caulcrick	2004-07	40
5.	Javon Ringer	2005-08	35

TOTAL OFFENSE ATTEMPTS (INCLUDES RUSHING & PASSING ATTEMPTS)

1.	Brian Lewerke	2016-19	1,595
2.	Jeff Smoker	2000-03	1,405
3.	Connor Cook	2012-15	1,346
4.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	1,239
5.	Drew Stanton	2003-06	1,178

TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS

1.	Brian Lewerke	2016-19	9,548
2.	Connor Cook	2012-15	9,403
3.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	9,004
4.	Jeff Smoker	2000-03	8,741
5.	Drew Stanton	2003-06	8,036

TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS PER ATTEMPT (MIN. 200 ATTEMPTS)

1.	Gene Glick	1946-49	7.90
2.	Earl Morrall	1953-55	7.41
3.	Kirk Cousins	2008-11	7.27
4.	Connor Cook	2012-15	6.99
5.	Drew Stanton	2003-06	6.82

SCORING/TOTAL OFFENSE • SEASON

TOTAL POINTS SCORED

1.	Jeremy Langford	2014	132
	Javon Ringer	2008	132
3.	Jehuu Caulcrick	2007	126
4.	Jeremy Langford	2013	114
	Blake Ezor	1989	114

ALL-PURPOSE YARDS

1.	Devin Thomas	2007	2,590
2.	Lorenzo White	1985	2,094
3.	Javon Ringer	2008	2,051
4.	Le'Veon Bell	2012	2,024
5.	Derrick Mason	1995	1,994

TOUCHDOWNS SCORED

1.	Jeremy Langford	2014	22
	Javon Ringer	2008	22
3.	Jehuu Caulcrick	2007	21
4.	Jeremy Langford	2013	19
	Blake Ezor	1989	19

TOTAL OFFENSE ATTEMPTS

1.	Jeff Smoker	2003	551
2.	Brian Lewerke	2019	547
3.	Andrew Maxwell	2012	483
4.	Drew Stanton	2005	475
5.	Connor Cook	2015	460

TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS

1.	Brian Lewerke	2019	3,442
2.	Drew Stanton	2005	3,415
3.	Connor Cook	2014	3,294
4.	Jeff Smoker	2003	3,279
5.	Kirk Cousins	2011	3,277

TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS PER ATTEMPT (MIN. 200 ATTEMPTS)

1.	Connor Cook	2015	7.92
2.	Keith Nichol	2009	7.89
3.	Kirk Cousins	2009	7.63
4.	Jeff Smoker	2001	7.35
5.	Drew Stanton	2004	7.24

SCORING/TOTAL OFFENSE • GAME

TOTAL TOUCHDOWNS

1.	Blake Ezor	Northwestern	1989	6
2.	Javon Ringer	Eastern Michigan	2008	5
3.	19 times.			
	Last: Jeremy Langford vs. Indiana		2013	4

(The above are modern-day records. George E. "Carp" Julian, scored seven TDs in a 75-6 win over Akron in 1914.)

POINTS SCORED

1.	Blake Ezor	Northwestern	1989	36
2.	Javon Ringer	Eastern Michigan	2008	30
3.	Scott Greene	Illinois	1995	26
4.	17 times.			
	Last: Jeremy Langford vs. Indiana		2013	24

TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS

1.	Brian Lewerke	Northwestern	2017	475
2.	Brian Lewerke	Penn State	2017	425
3.	Connor Cook	Indiana	2015	416
4.	Drew Stanton	Minnesota	2004	410
5.	Drew Stanton	Hawaii	2004	406

ALL PURPOSE YARDS

1.	Eric Allen	Purdue	1971	397
2.	Javon Ringer	Florida Atlantic	2008	308
3.	Sedrick Irvin	Indiana	1997	306
4.	Lorenzo White	Indiana	1987	303
5.	Clinton Jones	Iowa	1966	299

Jeremy Langford

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DEFENSE RECORDS

DEFENSE • CAREER

TACKLES

1.	Dan Bass	1976-79	541
2.	Percy Snow	1986-89	473
3.	Greg Jones	2007-10	465
4.	Ike Reese	1994-97	420
5.	Josh Thornhill	1998-2001	395

TACKLES FOR LOSSES

1.	Kenny Willekes	2015-19	51
2.	Julian Peterson (215 yards)	1998-99	48
3.	Greg Jones (160)	2007-10	46.5
4.	Denicos Allen (198)	2010-13	46
5.	Travis Davis (268)	2012-15	44

QUARTERBACK SACKS

1.	Larry Bethea (208 yds)	1975-77	33
2.	Shilique Calhoun (211)	2012-15	27
3.	Kenny Willekes	2015-19	26
4.	Julian Peterson (161)	1998-99	25
5.	Travis Davis (217)	1986-89	24
	Kelly Quinn (183)	1982-85	24

INTERCEPTIONS

1.	Lynn Chandnois	1946-49	20
2.	Todd Krumm	1984-87	18
3.	Phil Parker	1982-85	16
4.	Kurt Larson	1985-88	14
	John Miller	1985-88	14
	Brad Van Pelt	1970-72	14

INTERCEPTION RETURN YARDS

1.	Lynn Chandnois	1946-49	410
2.	Brad Van Pelt	1970-72	268
3.	Phil Parker	1982-85	267
4.	Johnny Adams	2008-	219
5.	Jesse Thomas	1948-50	212

FUMBLE RECOVERIES

1.	Dan Bass	1976-79	12
2.	Larry Savage	1976-79	8
3.	Carlos Jenkins	1987-90	7
	Smiley Creswell	1980-82	7
	John McCormick	1977-80	7
	Mel Land	1975-78	7
	George Chatlos	1966-67	7

PASS BREAK-UPS

1.	Amp Campbell	1996-99	56
2.	Cedric Henry	1998-2000, 2002	42
3.	Broderick Nelson	1998,2000-02	37
4.	Renaldo Hill	1998-2000	36
5.	Otis Wiley	2005-08	31

DEFENSE • SEASON

TACKLES

1.	Chuck Bullough	1991	175
2.	Percy Snow	1989	172
3.	Chuck Bullough	1990	164
	Percy Snow	1988	164
5.	Dan Bass	1979	160

TACKLES FOR LOSSES

1.	Julian Peterson (140 yds)	1999	30
2.	Kenny Willekes (84)	2018	20.5
3.	Denicos Allen (86)	2011	18.5
	Ervin Baldwin (89)	2007	18.5
5	Julian Peterson (75)	1998	18
	Larry Bethea (93)	1977	18

QUARTERBACK SACKS

1.	Larry Bethea (90 yds)	1977	16
2.	Julian Peterson (104)	1999	15
3.	Robaire Smith (58)	1997	12
	Travis Davis (105)	1987	12
	Kelly Quinn (84)	1984	12

INTERCEPTIONS

1.	Todd Krumm	1987	9
2.	Kurt Larson	1988	8
	John Miller	1987	8
	Jesse Thomas	1950	8
5.	Demetrice Martin	1994	7
	Phil Parker	1983	7
	Lynn Chandnois	1949	7

INTERCEPTION RETURN YARDS

1.	Phil Parker (7 Int.)	1983	203
2.	Lynn Chandnois (7)	1949	183
3.	Johnny Adams (3)	2011	141
4.	Todd Krumm (9)	1987	129
	Brad Van Pelt (4)	1971	129

FUMBLE RECOVERIES

1.	George Chatlos	1966	7
2.	Matt Vanderbeek	1989	5
	Tom Standal	1975	5
	Tom Kronner	1973	5
5.	Shilique Calhoun	2013	4
	Five other players		4

PASS BREAK-UPS

1.	Amp Campbell	1999	26
2.	Cedric Henry	2000	24
3.	Broderick Nelson	2001	20
4.	Broderick Nelson	2002	17
5.	Roderick Maples	2004	16
	Lemar Marshall	1998	16
	Ray Hill	1997	16

DEFENSE • GAME

TACKLES

1.	Dan Bass	Ohio State	1979	32
2.	Don Law	Ohio State	1969	28
3.	Dan Bass	Notre Dame	1979	24
4.	Percy Snow	Illinois	1989	23
5.	Ty Hallock	Minnesota	1992	21
	Shane Bullough	Indiana	1985	21
	Brad Van Pelt	Notre Dame	1971	21
	Doug Barr	Ohio State	1969	21
	Don Law	Indiana	1967	21

TACKLES FOR LOSSES

1.	Julian Peterson (42 yards)	Ohio State	1998	7
2.	Julian Peterson (7)	Oregon	1999	6
3.	William Gholston (16)	Georgia	2012	5
	Josh Shaw (14)	Wisconsin	2000	5
	Julian Peterson (32)	Florida	2000	5
	Travis Davis (37)	Ohio State	1987	5
	Rich Saul (14)	Iowa	1968	5

QUARTERBACK SACKS

1.	Travis Davis (37 yards)	Ohio State	1987	5
2.	Matthias Askew (28)	Western Michigan	2003	4
	Julian Peterson (30)	Ohio State	1998	4
	Kelly Quinn (26)	Northwestern	1984	4
	Rich Saul (13)	Iowa	1969	4

INTERCEPTIONS

1.	John Miller	Michigan	1987	4
2.	Mark Anderson	Notre Dame	1977	3
	Five other players			3

FUMBLE RECOVERIES

1.	Matt Vanderbeek	Hawaii	1989	3
	Phil Hoag	Illinois	1966	3
	Ernie Clark	Illinois	1961	3
4.	Several players			2

PASS BREAK-UPS

1.	Jeremy Ware	Northwestern	2008	5
	Broderick Nelson	Indiana	2002	5
	Broderick Nelson	Wisconsin	2001	5
	Cedric Henry	Marshall	2000	5
	Amp Campbell	Northwestern	1999	5
	Renaldo Hill	Minnesota	1998	5

Kenny Willekes

Greg Jones

PRESEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Michigan State opened preseason practice on Aug. 7 and held four practices before the Big Ten season was postponed on Aug. 11. On Sept. 16, the Big Ten announced the season would restart and the first weekend of games would be on Oct. 23-24. The Spartans returned to the practice field on Sept. 21 and practiced for the first time in full pads on Sept. 30 in preparation for the season opener against Rutgers.

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   - Employment for a prospective or current student-athlete's friends or relatives
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   - Employers may not advertise a student-athlete's employment or use a student-athlete's name or picture to advertise, promote or recommend the sale or use of any commercial product or service.
   - Student-athletes must report all jobs to MSU's Office of Compliance Services.
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4. You may not provide student-athletes, their families, or friends with entertainment expenses related to MSU athletic events (e.g., complimentary admissions, access to courtside seating or suites).
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